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**April, 1917.**

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### CAVALRY IN THE GREAT WAR.\*

BY CAPTAIN HENRY J. REILLY, FIRST ILLINOIS FIELD ARTILLERY.

Late First Lieutenant, Fifteenth U. S. Cavalry. War Correspondent in France for the *Chicago Tribune* and the *New York Herald*.

WHILE it is still difficult to get exact information as to minor points, such as armament, equipment, and the details of organization, which this war has shown to be necessary for cavalry, there is little doubt from what has happened in the various campaigns to date, that the conception as a whole of the use of cavalry which obtained in most European armies prior to August, 1914, has been shown to be wrong.

\*The CAVALRY JOURNAL is fortunate in receiving this interesting article, written especially and exclusively for the JOURNAL by a military expert and trained writer, who has had ample opportunity to see much of the fighting on the western front, of the allied armies. While necessarily lacking in details, the article indicates that this war has brought no change in the underlying principles governing the use of cavalry. In fact, three important facts stand out in Captain Reilly's article. Facts which have ever been considered axiomatic in the use of American cavalry: When the time for its use comes, it must be used in great masses; it must be wonderfully mobile to out-manuever opposing troops, whether infantry or cavalry; and it must be as efficient in fire-effect as any opposing foot-troops.

An examination of European cavalries at the time that the war broke out, shows most of them to have been armed with a carbine and to have carried a comparatively small number of rounds of ammunition; to have been organized in regiments, of six to nine hundred troopers, brigades of 1,800 or 2,000, and divisions of 3,600 to 4,000; almost always supported by field guns, lighter and always less numerous than those assigned the same number of infantry. In other words, the armament and organization show there was no intention of seriously engaging infantry. While fighting on foot was taught, it was frequently evident that it was done with reluctance, and rather as a precautionary measure to be used in special cases than as a serious method of combat.

The training of the larger units was primarily devoted to that necessary to enable the cavalry to do reconnaissance work in front of its own army. This meant fighting the enemy's cavalry. By the time the enemy's infantry could reach the field in sufficiently large numbers to begin serious combat, it was expected that the cavalry's own infantry would arrive and thus prevent its being too seriously engaged. Of course, in every cavalryman's mind was the hope that sooner or later he would get the chance to cut up routed enemy infantry.

In examining the war to date, it is soon evident that while in the various campaigns in the open field, the cavalry has performed its reconnaissance work and has fought the enemy's cavalry, on the whole it has in no case exercised a decisive influence. The natural answer which occurs to many minds

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As every military student knows, cavalry action on the western front has been almost nil, because of the trench warfare which simulates siege operations pure and simple, with a tactical employment of cavalry which would be almost impossible on the American continent, where vast maneuvering terrain for mounted troops resembles that found on the eastern front—in Galicia, Roumania, and south-western Russia. But even on the western front, if the anticipated "big drive" on the part of the allied armies leads to an end of trench warfare, there will still be a crying need for cavalry of the kind that Sheridan and Wilson commanded at the end of our great Civil War.

Captain Reilly's article was written about February 15, 1917, from the western front, and is therefore most timely.—C. D. R.

is that this is simply because the day of cavalry has passed. Is this so, or, is it simply that the cavalry, through a faulty conception prior to the war as to its proper use, has been unable to take advantage of the opportunities which have offered themselves?

The largest conceptions are always the simplest and therefore generally the most correct. The execution of a large conception however, generally demands the careful working out of such a number of details, each of such voluminous size, as to lead most of us to the conclusion that the conception itself is impracticable, and therefore must be consigned to the *limbo* of beautiful theories which do not work. If there is one thing this war has shown, it is that the first conception as to the use of any weapon or branch of the service must be in broad simple terms, and with no thought as to the tremendous organization, training, and amount of *materiel* which the carrying out of the conception entails. All that mass of detail must be worked out after the general line of conduct has been determined.

When the war began, military aviation admittedly in its infancy, could perform little or nothing. This was undoubtedly because too much attention had been paid to the difficulty of successfully making and flying *one* machine in a manner valuable to an army. The valuable work done by a single machine soon showed what could be done, provided an army was supplied, not with a few aeroplanes and aviators, but with them by the thousands. The result was a determination to have those thousands in spite of all difficulties. The tremendous increase in the efficiency of reconnaissance and in the accuracy of artillery fire, due to aerial observation, has more than justified those organizers who did not permit the tremendous mass of difficult detail to deter them.

The French, through careful development of the use of their seventy-five milimeter quick-firing field gun, were the first to see the fact that the storm of shells produced, could literally blow a hole in the enemy's infantry in the open, through which their own infantry could go.

The Germans, by their development of the means of bringing heavy guns into the field, enabled their field armies

to quickly overcome fortifications. Both these advances, while of great importance were relatively small by the side of the conception of the use of artillery held today, in which the heavy guns deprive the defending infantry of all shelter, while the lighter guns cut them off from escape or help, and protect the attacking infantry during its advance. The amount of ammunition which such a use entails would undoubtedly, before the war have been considered so enormous as to forbid any such use of the guns, had anyone ever thought it out.\*

In the beginning of the war, the German infantry made tremendous marches. While they forced both the British and the French to retreat, they were unable to move fast enough to compel the Allied troops to stand, before they reached their chosen positions. Neither were they able during all this long retreat, to outflank the Allies. The battle of the Marne, not only stopped the victorious German advance, but compelled them to retreat. Had they moved faster, they undoubtedly could have prevented the Allies from having time to reform on the line of the Marne. As one of the reasons given for their defeat was the complete exhaustion of the German infantry due to its heavy marching, it is evident that it could not have come faster. In the same manner, the Allies were unable to move fast enough to prevent the Germans from settling themselves so solidly on the Aisne, that they have been there ever since. In the same way, attempts to outflank them could not be made quickly enough to prevent the Allies being met and stopped by opposing German forces, with the result that the lines of the two armies ultimately reached the English channel.

In the summer of 1915, the Germans broke through the Russian lines on the Dunajec, with the consequence that they shoved the Russians practically out of Galicia, entirely out of Poland, and almost out of Lithuania. They have recently cleared Wallachia of the Russians and the Roumanians.

In all these tremendous movements of the various armies, the victors have captured thousands of prisoners and large numbers of guns. Yet since the beginning of the war, there has

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\*A report has come from a reasonably reliable source that the Germans used divisions of nine thousand rifles with two hundred and sixteen guns attached, in the Roumanian campaign.

not been a really decisive victory such as Jena, Sedan, or Appomattox.\* In other words, beaten infantry though chased, always gets away in sufficiently large numbers to ultimately make a stand, reorganize, and still remain a fighting factor, instead of being completely removed from the scheme of operations, as would be the case should a complete victory be won.

There is only one reason for this state of affairs, which is that infantry cannot outmarch another equally well trained infantry. Cavalry can outmarch infantry and do it easily. However, if the cavalry armament is not sufficiently strong to meet that of the infantry on equal terms; if the cavalry has not been taught that it must attack infantry just as determinedly and with as little regard for losses as is done by infantry under similar conditions; and if the cavalry is not sufficiently numerous it can do no harm to the enemies infantry when it does overtake it. The European cavalry fulfilled none of these three necessities. Therefore, it has been unable to take advantage of the opportunities offered in this war to bring defeated infantry to bay.

The question has been asked in some quarters as to why infantry in motor-trucks cannot replace cavalry. In the first place, motor-trucks must keep to the roads. This means that the minute the extreme range of the enemy's artillery is reached, the infantry must dismount, as it is the height of folly to use columns of motor-trucks on roads within artillery range. Once dismounted, the infantry has lost its increased mobility over that of the enemy. Cavalry on the contrary, can travel over practically any kind of ground. Furthermore, as cavalry can move at fast gaits in open order, it undoubtedly can get through the extreme zones of artillery fire, which are made by slow-firing, heavy guns, with less loss than the same number of infantry.

In the second place the supply of a modern army in the field has reached such tremendous proportions as to demand a system of roads—if nothing but motor transportation is used, which even the splendid road development of the continent of Europe does not always satisfy. Tens of thousands of infantry

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\*Except Hindenberg's defeat of the Russians in East Prussia, which after all exercised a comparatively small effect on the war as a whole.

in motor-trucks will make a much greater demand on the number of trucks and consequently also on the road system, than the grain for the horses of the same number of cavalry. Up to now, the cavalry's mobility has always been kept down by the fact that its transport facilities could not keep up with it. The development of motor transportation, by its greater speed and carrying capacity, has for the first time in hisotry permitted really tremendous bodies of cavalry to move and be supplied while taking full advantage of the speed of their horses.

*Like all other wars, this one has brought no change in the underlying principles. It has simply changed the methods of following those principles.* The gathering of information before, during, and after combat, is primarily the function of *"the aviation service."* The preparation of the attack and its proper support during the attack, is the function of the artillery. As has practically always been the case since the invention of fire arms, the function of the infantry is to force the enemy entirely out of his position. The finishing blow which consists of stopping the retreat of the defeated enemy by outflanking and cutting him off, can only be accomplished by a force sufficiently mobile to outmarch him, and sufficiently strong to make him stand until the victorious infantry can overtake him and complete his ruin. The history of the present war to date, seems to clearly prove that this can only be done by a large, strongly armed, determined cavalry, animated by a desire to attain this result regardless of loss, in the same manner that infantry makes all of its decisive assaults.

All that is needed is a broad conception of the use of cavalry, which must not be handicapped or restricted by the numerous details of training, organization and supply, made necessary by modern military conditions.

*\*Of course, many of the details which complete reconnaissance should bring out, cannot be gotten by the aviation service. For this reason, the necessity for a certain amount of reconnaissance on the ground, still exists. However, there is no doubt that this can be successfully performed by small bodies of mounted scouts in war of movement, and by infantry scouts in trench warfare. It would therefore seem advisable to have small bodies of mounted scouts as part of the organization of a permanent scout corps, and not detailed from the cavalry attached to division and perhaps corps headquarters.*



## CAVALRY TACTICS ON THE WESTERN EUROPEAN LINE.\*

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CAVALRY is unlikely to be employed in any operation beyond the enemy's lines until the whole first line system of the enemy trenches has been broken over a very considerable front, and probably at several places.

If this is ever brought about, the situation would in some respects resemble the action of cavalry in the closing stages of a maneuver battle.

For such an operation, preparation, plans and orders require to be no less precise and carefully thought out than do plans and orders for the operations of the other arms.

Behind the enemy's first line system are numerous works and rear lines, but, if attacks are carried out on a sufficiently wide front and in several districts at once, it would not appear that there sufficient enemy reserves on the western front to enable them to reinforce every threatened point. They will fight bitterly for their first line system and will probably have to put in most of their local reserves in doing so, so that once broken in several districts we should be unlikely to find rear lines or works occupied by fresh troops for a considerable distance in rear. In such a case troops occupying rear works would probably be scattered bodies retiring from the broken first line.

In such a case cavalry would be employed in large bodies to extend and confirm the success, and we may be called upon:

(a) To push straight through and seize and hold areas of country, passages over obstacles, railway communications,

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\*The following notes are taken from official orders published by the commander of an Allied Cavalry Division in France. They are of undoubted authenticity but the writer does not feel at liberty to disclose the method by which he learned of the existence of these orders or of their contents.

etc., and keep the defeated enemy on the move and prevent his reorganizing.

(b) Up to this point everything will be on wheels, packs empty. "B" echelons as ordered.\*

(c) At the rendezvous the machine gun, L. G. S. carts are taken over by the Division for supply purposes, and Field Ambulances come under the Division with the exception of mounted detachments which have been specially organized for such an operation.

(d) All machine guns, a portion of tools, explosives and ammunition are taken out of "A" carts and prepared for pack.\*

(e) "A" echelon carts are brigaded, and come under Divisional control.

(f) Brigadiers ensure that the ground between the forward rendezvous and the attacking troops is thoroughly reconnoitered and that roads, concealed lines of advance across country, hiding places and assembly points under cover close behind the attacking infantry are thoroughly known to all regimental and squadron leaders both by day and night.

If the action appears to be going well the mounted troops will probably be moved forward during the final stages to places of assembly nearer to the trench line.

At this stage it will probably be possible to indicate generally the lines of advance for the move through the trench system, and the immediate approaches to them are again reconnoitered, and, if possible, the troops of the Field Squadron (Engineers) allotted to different brigades, reinforced by regimental pioneers, will be sent forward to prepare passages through the trench system. The trench system will of course, be crossed on as broad a front as possible to minimize the effect of hostile artillery, but it is quite possible that circumstances will compel the adoption of successive lines on a narrow front with subsequent deployment when the obstacles are passed.

When the order to advance is received the main and subsidiary objectives will be explained to all leaders, and precise

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\*"A" echelon includes small arms ammunition carts, water carts and ambulances.

"B" echelon includes wagons that carry kit, forage and rations.

orders given as to points of passage, formations to be adopted in crossing them, tasks of the various Brigades and movement of the artillery.

If possible the first objective will be a position close in front of the successful infantry with a view to getting a jumping off place clear of other troops from which the General Officer Commanding can decide if the original objectives are to be adhered to. It is for consideration for Brigadiers whether it will not often be advisable to split up their batteries by giving sections to advanced units. The moral effect of gun-fire on beaten troops is very great and such a distribution of the artillery might assist the pace at which the advanced units can overcome opposition.

No wheels, except guns and tool wagons of Field Squadrons (Engineer) will leave the forward rendezvous with Brigades. They will come under Divisional command.

The advance to successive objectives will then commence. In such advances large masses should be avoided. Much depends on the facilities the ground offers for concealed movement, but the general principle should be a succession of small bodies at 200 or 300 yards distance if column is unavoidable, or successive lines of troop columns if such an extension is possible. A general and not a precise alignment is all that is required. Extended order should not be taken unless forced on us by fire; the moment we are forced to adopt it command becomes difficult.

Special arrangements must be made by each Brigade to ensure that all hostile wires and other communications are destroyed wherever found.

The ordinary "*barrage de feu*" created by hostile artillery which is so fatal to slow moving infantry would be practically without effect against quickly moving cavalry. We can, and must, move to the attack of hostile guns with far more confidence than we do in open warfare. In the latter, guns are seldom without strong escort; in trench warfare the guns are, like our own, dug in, without escorts and largely immobile. It will be our principal duty to put hostile batteries out of action as rapidly as possible by destroying their crews and putting the guns out of action by removing essential parts or destroying

the recoil mechanism with pick-axes. Individual squadrons should be practiced in carrying out such an operation, so as to avoid the necessity of a long pause for detailed orders and instructions.

Defended houses, villages or posts will immediately stop any direct mounted advance. We must on no account allow them to prevent the continuation of our forward movement; they must be avoided or masked by dismounted fire, and guns brought into action against them while a covered or partially covered way is sought for by which further advance can be made at speed. Rigid control of fire is necessary by masking parties; independent fire on such works is useless; officers must try and discover machine gun emplacements and concentrate their fire on them.

In view of the value of machine guns for retaining our hold on our eventual objectives and the difficulty of keeping up the supply of ammunition for these weapons, detaching them for the purpose of masking such works should be done very sparingly and never if it can be avoided.

The supply of ammunition is so great an anxiety on such occasions, owing to the congested state of rearward communications, that all leaders, and especially machine gun commanders, must ensure that fire is strictly controlled and independent fire absolutely forbidden, except in case of sudden close attack by the enemy.

In such an operation every man will be wanted and it is of urgent importance that units are not permitted to leave escorts with captured guns or make large detachments to guard prisoners. Once a battery is put out of action and its personnel disposed of, it must be left, unless special orders to the contrary are issued.

Prisoners must be disarmed, if necessary the stocks of their rifles being broken on the ground, and they must be placed as quickly as possible in churches or other large buildings guarded by a few men only. Every effort must be made to reach the final objective as strong as possible. On reaching the final objective formations, in the absence of instructions, must at once consolidate the position, pushing forward patrols to keep

touch with the enemy and reporting at once to Headquarters for instructions as to the division of responsibility for the night.

Wounded men must be collected in houses as near as possible to the main roads, slight cases should be ordered to the same places and not allowed to walk back to the rear as there are sure to be armed enemy stragglers left behind us.

Getting up rations and forage in such an operation is bound to be problematical; officers must on their own responsibility requisition any supplies that may be available in the country.

In order that these pauses may be as short as possible, consistent with concerted action, officers commanding units must, the moment they reach the end of each bound, commence to prepare the next bound by pushing forward officers patrols, and by personal reconnaissance.

Brigadiers must keep close up to their commands, and be right up with them a few minutes after each bound is complete. The command of cavalry in such an operation is essentially a "personal" matter, and depends for success on the actual presence of the Brigadiers, and the "drive" they impart to their commands.

Precise orders must be issued especially for the first move; defining points of passage through the obstacles created by the trench system which has been so long occupied; the first objective and the distant objective; special security measures demanded by the situation, such as the special guarding of an exposed flank, method of dealing with tactical points known to be held, action against hostile batteries still in action, destruction of wires and other means of communication, deployment on a broader front after passing the trench system, allocation of fronts to different formations and units, axis of advance of various formations, report centers and methods of communication, disposal of prisoners and captured material and disposal of our own casualties, rendezvous for men whose horses have been shot.

We shall be dealing, for some time at any rate, with hostile infantry, and we must make full use of our mobility to outflank and anticipate them. All advances must be mounted as long as possible and our tactics must be the fire tactics of mounted troops as opposed to those of infantry. Surprise, sudden bursts

of fire at full strength, no gradual building up of a firing line, but seeking to gain the fullest effect at once by putting every rifle in the firing line. We may eventually have to attack dismounted to seize a bridge-head or clear a village or wood, which it is absolutely necessary for us to possess, but we must put it off as long as possible, for the moment we resort to it we give up our chief asset—mobility. It is better to lose a number of horses in a rapid mounted advance than to lose hundreds of men in a slow dismounted attack over the same ground.

All our movements, while as rapid as possible, must be properly protected. Formed bodies must not advance until tactical patrols have cleared the way for the next bound and until ground scouts and wire cutters have got a considerable distance ahead.

Squadrons must on no account follow up and exploit local successes recklessly. If this is permitted all cohesion is rapidly lost, control becomes impossible, and we lay ourselves open to a crushing check by hostile formed bodies. It is of vital importance for all leaders, however junior, to keep the common object always in view and constantly inform their superiors of their progress. In the heat of action leaders often forget how important this constant stream of information is to enable the Brigadiers to coördinate the effort of their commands. Lateral communications between units and formations must also be close and constant—cohesion and unity of effort depend on a constant stream of communication along the line and to the rear.

The following is a possible sequence of events leading up to and during the first stages of such an advance:

(a) Brigades will concentrate at advance rendezvous some distance in rear of a proposed attack, concealed as far as possible from aerial observation.

(b) To flank one or both sides of a break in the hostile line and incidentally to widen the gap.

In both cases we may have eventually to check and delay hostile reinforcements brought from a distance until the arrival of our infantry.

On the broad front occupied at present by the hostile armies there can probably be no question of the pursuit of a beaten enemy on parallel lines. Our business will be to attain the objective given us by the higher command as rapidly as possible, and to hold onto it at all costs until our infantry, exhausted and split up after their effort against the enemy, can be reorganized into their formations and brought up.

We must be very careful that however demoralized the first enemy are that we encounter after their first defeat in the trenches, we do not allow anything in the nature of uncontrolled pursuit, which is bound to lead to severe checks from formed reinforcements should we meet them, and makes concerted action impossible. While taking full advantage of our mobility and moral effect on the enemy we must act on a clear system with definite objectives kept constantly in view.

The distant and subsidiary objectives must be clearly understood by all commanders, and we must try and reach them quickly, but in good order. Each bound should be prepared and, the pace and length of the movement being regulated by the opposition incurred, proper security measures must be taken before committing formed bodies to an advance.

There should be a distinct pause at the end of each bound to allow of reorganization and the issue of fresh orders to deal with the local situation in the spirit of the general instructions.

In carrying out such an operation the cavalry must remember that to break the enemy line, no price can be too high, no half measure will succeed—there must be a determination to drive forward at all costs, regardless of losses or fatigue of men and horses.

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## THE COLUMBUS RAID.\*

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COLUMBUS, New Mexico, is situated on the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad, about two and one-half miles from the Mexican border. The civil population at the time of the Villa raid was about four hundred, while its military garrison consisted of headquarters and seven troops of the Thirteenth Cavalry, in addition to the machine gun troop and a small sanitary detachment. The Commanding Officer was Colonel H. J. Slocum, Thirteenth Cavalry.

On March 8th, the troops were disposed, with Troop "G" at Bailey's ranch, two and one-half miles from Columbus; Troops "E," "L" and part of "M" at Gibson's ranch, fourteen miles distant; while in camp at Columbus were Troops "F," "H," "K," machine gun troop and band, with an approximate strength of 190 men.

The Thirteenth Cavalry had been on border duty at Columbus since September, 1911, and during that time had been almost constantly on patrol duty against possible attack by Mexican bandits. On numerous occasions, alarms had reached the regimental camp causing uneasiness, but in all cases hitherto, the result of reconnaissance or investigation proved the rumors to be without substantial foundation.

On or about the 5th or 6th of March 1916, rumors were rife that Villa was to cross the international boundary and give

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\*The following account of what happened at Columbus, N. M., March 8 and 9, 1916, is compiled by the CAVALRY JOURNAL from different sources, and is intended to supplement other articles describing rather isolated engagements with the Mexican bandits. Many of the principle facts have been taken from the simple narrative of Captain James T. Castleman, Thirteenth Cavalry, who was Officer of the Day on the night of the raid and who was, therefore, in a position to know more of what actually occurred than perhaps anyone else present in Columbus or its vicinity. Captain Castleman's gallantry on the night of March 9th is well known to the service, and has been formally recognized by higher authority through publication in War Department Orders.



himself up. This story was received with little or no credence, but the camp commander took every precaution to receive the bandit whether he should appear as a friend or foe. Accordingly Major Elmer Lindsley, with Troops "E" and "L" were sent to Gibson's ranch about fourteen miles from Columbus and actually on the international line, while Troop "G" under Captain Jens Stedje, 13th cavalry, was sent to Bailey's ranch, commonly known as the Border Gate, about two and one-half miles from Columbus. Both these little commands had specific instructions to patrol the international line east and west, reporting any information that might be received.

On the night of March 7th, Colonel Slocum received information that Villa was about two miles south of the Border Gate, and accordingly Lieut. McCain, was directed to take Troop "K" and re-inforce Captain Stedje at the gate. Captain Turner was also directed to proceed with his troop dismounted to the same place. The camp commander made a personal visit by automobile to the Gate but found everything quiet; the Carranza commander at that point reporting that Villa was nowhere near the international boundary. Mexican patrols sent out at the instance of Colonel Slocum also reported no Villistas in the immediate vicinity of Columbus, and about two or three o'clock A. M., Troops "K" and "M" were ordered back to camp.

On March 8th, the usual routine was carried out in camp, and on the afternoon of that date Captain Castleman assumed the duty of Officer of the Day.

He has since reported that during the first part of the night everything was particularly quiet in camp, and his inspections revealed the sentries constantly on the alert. At twelve midnight he met the train from El Paso bringing back certain members of the regimental polo team, afterwards inspecting the guard again, and subsequently entering the officers of the day's shack about one o'clock A. M. For some unknown reason Captain Castleman did not lie down, but continued to read until about four o'clock A. M. At 4:15 A. M., he began preparations to make his final inspection. The night was pitch dark and the only light burning in camp was that of the Officer of the Day.

Hardly had Captain Castleman risen from his chair when a shot was fired and someone yelled "My God! I am shot!" The Officer of the Day grabbed his pistol and running to the door of his shack met a Mexican face to face at the corner of the house. The two came together with a clash and the Mexican fired point blank at Castleman with a 30-30 Winchester, knocking off the officer's hat and burning his face. Captain Castleman shot him dead in his tracks. The Officer of the Day then started on towards the sentry who had yelled that he was shot, but had hardly taken a dozen steps in that direction when the ditch running parallel to camp was ablaze with the flash of Mexican rifles.

The Officer of the Day immediately realized that Villa had at last attacked Columbus, especially as the firing was accompanied by blood curdling yells worthy of Apache Indians. Turning toward the guard house the Officer of the Day managed to cross the parade under this galloping fire and reached the guard who were on the alert. He directed the guard to open fire at once and they were soon using their rifles on the Villistas with telling effect. As soon as they were started in action, Captain Castleman ran down the line of stables turning out the stable men as he ran. After reaching the stables of Troop "F," Captain Castleman ran over to the quarters of his troop ("F") and assembled his men; line was quickly formed and a hot fire opened on the right flank of the Villistas, our troops rapidly advancing until they actually came in contact with the Mexicans, when the latter broke and started towards the coal bins on the E. P. & S. W. R. R. toward town. The bandits then got into the bins and poured a merciless fire in the direction of the Americans, accompanied by the usual blood-curdling yells. Captain Castleman continued advancing with his troop and ultimately drove the Mexicans from the bins in which they had taken refuge. Private Taylor was killed here and his body was left on the side of one of the bins, as the fighting was too close to give him any immediate attention. As the American troops moved out of the bins already piled with Mexican dead, the Villistas again broke and ran toward the Hoover Hotel and Columbus Bank, with all of Troop "F," except one dead and one wounded, right after them. The number of Villistas in

this particular corner was estimated at about three hundred and for a solid hour Americans and Mexicans fought a hand to hand conflict in pitch darkness, hardly able to recognize friend from foe. Near the Columbus Bank corner, Private Butler was mortally wounded; his body was taken to a house out of range of direct fire. Meanwhile the cavalry troops went in aggressively against the bandits, shooting them, clubbing them and resorting to every possible means of driving them from the town. This fight started about 4:45 A. M., and lasted until 5:40 A. M.

About 5:30 A. M., Captain Castleman heard screaming in the Hoover Hotel, and Mr. Hoover yelled that he was in the building. Captain Castleman with three men ran into the hotel and at the door stumbled over the bodies of Mr. C. C. Miller and Mr. James, both riddled with bullets. Private High was wounded here. Returning to the street, Captain Castleman found the bandits again breaking, so that he deployed his men across the streets and fired volley after volley up and down the main street of the town—north, east and west. About this time he was joined by Colonel Slocum, who directed him to hold his position at that end of the town at any cost. Firing was continued as long as any of the bandits remained in Columbus, and detachments were subsequently sent out to round up the ladies and children—about thirty of them being brought in safety to the principle adobe building. As day began to break the Villista bugles began sounding the retreat, but firing continued until about 6:05 A. M., when Colonel Slocum directed that Troop "F" mount up and follow the bandits, supporting Captain Smyser.

Now as to what happened in the camp proper: It would seem that the first line of Villistas which charged the camp and which had been opposed by Captain Castleman with his troop, consisted of about 300 or 400 men. About the time that they were driven out of camp, another line of several hundred entered the town from a slightly different direction and these were met and opposed by individual soldiers of the Thirteenth Cavalry, fighting practically by themselves all night. The sudden on-rush of the bandits isolated most of the officers from their troops and with the terrific firing going on and the practical

possession of the town by the bandits, it was impossible to tell friend from foe.

Captain Symser and his family (wife and two children) escaped from their house in night clothes and entering a stable, laid on the floor watching the Mexicans ransack their house. After the Villistas left, they slipped into the brush and ran about two miles to a cave. Their feet were badly lacerated. Colonel and Mrs. Slocum left their house at the beginning of the firing and took refuge in the mesquite, until just before daylight when a detachment found them and brought them into camp. Lieutenant Lucas got out of his house without his shoes, and his feet were badly cut by sand-burrs and mesquite. He succeeded in getting two machine guns into action at the beginning of the fight. Mrs. Castleman and her two children were awakened by the yelling and firing, and crawled under their bed where they remained breathless until the last shot was fired. Captain Castleman's colored butler, Carson Jackson, crawled under the bath tub and remained there throughout the fight—a feat which no one could accomplish under ordinary conditions. Captain Castleman's house was riddled with bullets and his motor car had nineteen bullet holes in it. Captain George Williams succeeded by a roundabout route in making his way to camp without being killed or wounded. Major and Mrs. Frank Tompkins barricaded their doors and took refuge behind some mattresses with all the pistols in the house loaded, awaiting the breaking in of the bandits. Mr. Dean, a civilian, tried to reach his store and was killed in the middle of the street. A. B. Frost, his wife and baby, tried to reach his garage when the fighting started and had backed the machine out when Frost was shot. He succeeded in starting towards Deming when he was shot the second time. Mrs. Frost put her husband and baby (three months old) in the back of the car and drove the car to Deming herself. J. L. Greenwood, living in the north edge of Columbus, started for Deming with his wife and baby and raced with Mrs. Frost—each one thinking the other was the enemy. Lieutenant McCain, wife, baby and servant took to the brush at the beginning of the fight, armed only with a shot gun. McCain there encountered an armed Mexican on

whom the bird shot had little effect, but who was subsequently despatched with some difficulty by the use of a knife.

Daylight found the town and camp a most gruesome sight. Nineteen Mexicans had been killed in front of the Columbus Bank. At the stables of Troop "F," seven Mexicans were found dead and six horses wounded. Troop "F," upon receiving orders to move out, and follow the retreating Mexicans, was attracted by screaming in the brush and upon investigation found a Mrs. Moore lying in the mesquite shot through both legs. Her husband, Mr. Moore, had been riddled with bullets near the door of his house. As the troop proceeded towards the border line, it passed about forty dead Mexicans scattered along the way.

Upon reaching the border Captain Castleman received a message to push on and support Captain Symser. The troop had hardly crossed into Mexico, when the Mexicans opened fire and for about fifteen miles there was a running fight with every conceivable method of cavalry warfare, used except sabers. The Mexicans would run to a ridge, dismount and open a terrific fire on our troops, forcing the latter to dismount and drive them off. As soon as this was done our cavalry would mount and pursue them again. This lasted for a number of miles.

At last Captain Castleman and Captain Smyser got together and increased the intensity of the attack—coming to close quarters with the bandits every few hundred yards. About twelve miles from the American line a frontal and flank attack was attempted by the two troops which had the ultimate effect of forcing about four hundred Mexicans into action. After intense firing on both sides the Mexicans broke and ran, and as the Americans were practically out of ammunition, they were forced to return to Columbus.

In retracing their steps, sixty-seven dead Mexicans were found between the place of the last fight and the American line, with some two hundred horses, many rifles, some machine guns and much ammunition. It is almost unnecessary to state that the troopers were so utterly exhausted that they could hardly sit on their horses, having been in action for about eleven hours

without food or water. They arrived back at Columbus at 3:15 P. M.

All told, the Villistas lost about two hundred and fifteen men killed; the number of their wounded is unknown but under ordinary rules of computation must have amounted to several hundred. Our cavalry lost seven men killed and eight wounded. Their were also eight civilians killed and five wounded.



## THE AUTOMATIC PISTOL IN THE PUNITIVE EXPEDITION.

BY LAWRENCE J. FLEMING, LIEUTENANT COLONEL, FIFTH CAVALRY.

IN spite of the fact that the cavalry has been armed with the automatic pistol for more than two years, little has been done to develop its use, and the conditions have been adverse for experiment. Nevertheless, several good opportunities have been offered during our service in Mexico to test the pistol in actual combat, and the positive results obtained, in spite of the poor preparation, led General Pershing to take radical measures to develop the evident possibilities of the pistol in action.

With this in view a board was appointed at Colonia Dublan to conduct exhaustive experiments to determine the best methods of using the pistol in action and of training men for that use, and a list of twenty questions was sent by circular letter to all cavalry officers in Mexico and they were required to reply in compliance with the following order:

HEADQUARTERS PUNITIVE EXPEDITION, U. S. ARMY,	
General Orders,	DUBLAN, MEXICO,
No. 60.	November 1, 1916.

The general efficiency in pistol practice attained by the cavalry during recent years has not been high enough to inspire confidence in the effectiveness of that weapon, even among its advocates. Nor has the development of fire tactics of troops using the pistol, mounted, kept pace with the progress made by troops armed solely with the rifle. But the very positive results obtained during this campaign in the mounted attack with the pistol, in the hands of even average shots, clearly indicate its possibilities if handled by troops well trained in its use.



With a view to developing a scientific method of quickly training men in mounted work with the pistol, all cavalry officers are enjoined to give the subject careful thought before the period of pistol practice begins, and to study the tactical features involved in leading mounted troops in the pistol charge. They will be expected to prepare and submit their views for consideration by a board of officers, shortly to be designated to make exhaustive experiments in methods of instructing both men and horses in pistol work and to consider the tactical problems that present themselves in this connection.

By command of Major General PERSHING,

De R. C. CABELL,

*Colonel, 10th Cavalry,*

*Chief of Staff.*

Some of the replies that could be consolidated so as to show a positive vote are as follows:

Q. 1. Do you think cavalry should be armed with the automatic pistol?

A. Yes, 71; No. 29.

Q. 6. How many clips should be carried? Where? Would you change the present web pocket?

A. Present number of clips, 74; more clips, 24; Present web pocket, 19; leather pocket, 77.

Q. 7. Is a dust proof holster or separate cover necessary?

A. Yes, 45; No. 56.

Q. 9. Would you recommend the use of a .22 caliber gallery automatic pistol, same weight, size and shape of the Cal. .45 for training purposes?

A. Yes, 65; No, 34.

Q. 11. Do you advise firing straight to the front mounted?

A. Yes, 47; No, 52.



Q. 13. Do you consider it advisable to have compulsory firing once a month during the open season for all cavalry regiments?

A. Yes, 81; No, 14.

Q. 14. Have you found any difficulty with the pistol functioning on this expedition? If so, what?

A. Yes, 34; No, 62.

Q. 15. Do you believe that the pistol could be used to advantage in the dismounted charge against trenches?

A. Yes, 86; No, 13.

Q. 20. Have you ever had any experience in drill exercises or action requiring use of ball cartridges by more than individual men? If so, give results and conclusions.

A. Yes, 14; No, 86.

The board considered the replies of officers and conducted daily experiments in firing, dismounted and mounted.

As the result of this experimental work three distinct results were arrived at:

1. A Manual of the Pistol.
2. A Course of Pistol Practice.
3. A demonstration of the Manual and the Pistol Course to assembled officer and non-commissioned officers.

\* \* \* \* \*

All officers and all non-commissioned officers armed with the pistol, were assembled for the demonstration, and both the manual and the course met with universal commendation and approval.

The results of the firing to the front, and of training sixteen new horses in thirty minutes, were especially striking.

All the cavalry of the expedition are now engaged in practicing the manual and firing the special course recommended (the regular course not being adapted to conditions here) and rapid progress is being made and great interest is being shown by both officers and men, as the whole practice appeals to them as being practical and of a kind to lead directly to use in action.

Some conclusions of the board are here given:

6. That quicker and better results are attained by training horses to mounted fire first collectively then individually.

7. That the difficulties and danger of charging with the automatic pistol in line or column have heretofore been greatly exaggerated. Trained men can charge in line in close order on horses not accustomed to fire mounted after thirty minutes practice. After ten days practice in the course recommended each troop of cavalry should be able to charge by platoons in line in close order.

8. That the pistol charge may be delivered from:

(a) Line of foragers.

(b) Line.

(c) Column of twos.

(d) Column of fours.

(e) Column of platoons, rear platoon obliquing.

(f) In larger bodies a charge with the attacking line armed with the pistols should be followed by supports armed with the saber.

9. That it is not advisable to practice firing dismounted with the pistol beyond 100 yards, as beyond that the point of aim is too far off the target.

10. That firing kneeling is more accurate than off hand provided the off hand position is maintained as nearly as possible, and the elbow only rested on the knee. Any attempt to assist with the left hand or to change the relation of hand, wrist and arm give poor results. The reason is the change in the jump of the pistol. The kneeling position with left knee on the ground left foot to the rear, right arm resting on right knee is one easily gotten into or out of at a run, gives greater accuracy and presents a smaller target. The prone position did not prove satisfactory.

11. That scores of seven shots be used instead of five.

12. That in firing automatic fire the arm must be held straight without locking the elbow.

13. That the automatic pistol can be kept in working order in dry weather when dust is abundant and rust unlikely by

wiping it dry after cleaning, by blowing or brushing off the dust; and in wet weather when rust is likely by keeping it well oiled. A complete overhauling of the pistols at least once a year should be made by a competent man.

14. That it will probably be better to hold three shots for the *mêlée* after the charge than to fire them at extreme range while charging. Two lines approaching each other at the rate of 100 yards in ten seconds (twenty miles per hour) will cover 100 yards in five seconds; beyond 50 yards shots go very wild. In this connection it is worthy of remark that if the horses begin to pull up (which must be discouraged) the cone of fire falls in front of the target, shown in firing at a barrier target that drops.

15. That instead of starting a recruit at individual mounted practice when he is not too sure of handling his pistol and probably discouraged at his ability to control his horse, the better practice would be to have him ride on the target flank of a set of fours and devote most of his time to his pistol.

16. That mounted specially pistol must be handled definitely and with decision. One should know what he is going to do with his pistol before he moves. Carelessness in this respect should be discouraged from the outset and corrected by drill in the manual until all movements have become second nature. No firing with ball cartridges should be given until the manual is thoroughly understood.

17. That suspended targets arranged as specified in the Course of Pistol Firing (G) are very satisfactory for firing to the front on account of their safety.

18. That E figures attached to long stakes and spaced two yards between edges is a good target for charging through as foragers.

19. That a combination of 18 and 17 about 150 yards apart is a good target for firing by fours, changing magazines.

#### SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That monthly payments be given for qualification in pistol firings as for the rifle in the following amounts:

Expert, \$3.00 per month; first class, \$2.00 per month. Conditions of qualification should be such that a reasonably

good shot may attain first class and only a fine shot may become an expert.

The effect of the reward for qualification in rifle practice has been to make each man eager for every opportunity to practice and keen to learn; the same feeling should exist toward the pistol.

2. That the slide stop catch on the pistol be extended toward the rear about one-half inch so that it may be more easily reached by the thumb when operating it.

3. That the magazine be made stronger at the upper edges where the tips are curled over so as to hold the cartridge down and guide it (while the slide pushes it forward) until the bullet enters the chamber. When the tips become opened out from any cause the front end of the cartridge springs up too soon, striking the upper rear end of the barrel and jamming. This serious defect can be easily remedied by making the tips of the magazines and the portion of the sides below the tips so strong that no ordinary use will deform them.

4. In a number of cases the magazine base has broken out where the rivets fasten the base to the sides. This fastening should also be made stronger.

5. That the shape of the hammer head be modified so it will not pinch the hand immediately behind it when firing. The skin is caught between the hammer and the shoulder of the grip safety.

6. That the hammer be so arranged that it can be let down without slipping. Change hammer so that when down against the firing pin the hammer axis is to the rear of the pivot on which hammer rotates.

7. The magazine pocket should be of leather and with a simple stud and button hole fastener similar to that on the holster.

8. The 1916 model pistol holster which has no swivel, seems satisfactory.

9. That eight automatic pistols, Cal. 22, same weight, size and shape as the Cal. 45, be issued to each organization for training purposes.

10. A certain amount of firing with the Automatic Pistol, Cal. 45, should be required each month of the open season.

11. That blank cartridges be issued for accustoming horses to fire, using the pistol as a single loader.

12. That a course of pistol firing be included in the instruction at Fort Riley as it is a mounted arm and cannot be properly developed at the School of Musketry.

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COMMENTS.

As the utility of the pistol for mounted use by cavalry has never been firmly established in our service, the assembly of five regular regiments of cavalry in the field in one command, with time on its hands, presented a rare opportunity to give this weapon a thorough try-out. The board detailed for the task was directed to make every endeavor to develop a method that would produce quick and certain results in training men and horses, so that pistols could be used with confidence in mounted work, especially in charging to the front in close formation.

Although the Firing Regulations for the pistol prescribe no practice in this class of firing, but rather discourage such effort as dangerous, it was my own opinion, concurred in by the members of the board, that it could and should be done, and that unless cavalry could be trained up to this point the retention of the pistol as a weapon for that arm would be very questionable.

The first essential in the development of any method was to teach the men to handle the pistol without danger to themselves or others. The next and most important step was to teach the horses not to fear the sound of firing from their backs. The fact that horses are more easily handled in groups than as individuals was taken advantage of, and upon this principle this system of training horses to stand firing is based.

Numerous instances can now be cited where absolutely untrained remounts have been taken in hand by trained troopers and used in the charge, troopers firing to the front at suspended targets, after thirty minutes training as a group. The most

incredulous officers have become thoroughly convinced that the system proposed, if adopted, will revolutionize pistol practice, materially add to the efficiency of cavalry and increase the importance of mounted action.

J. J. P.

PROPOSED MANUAL FOR AUTOMATIC PISTOL, CALIBER .45.

The following manual for the automatic pistol, Cal. .45, will be used by all cavalry of the Punitive Expedition in lieu of the manual of the pistol as given in the Cavalry Service Regulations (paragraphs 125-132) and of any regulations in the Small Arms Firing Manual which may conflict with it.

MANUAL OF THE PISTOL.

1. Instruction is first given on foot; but the execution is the same whether mounted or dismounted. The recruit is first made familiar with the mechanism of the pistol and the method of cleaning, assembling and operating it.

When a lanyard is used, the snaps are attached to the butt of the pistol and to the magazine; the sliding loop is passed over the head and drawn snug against the right arm pit. The lanyard should then be of just such length that the arm can be extended without constraint.

2. *The pistol being in the holster:*

I. Raise. II. PISTOL.

At the command "Raise," unbutton the flap of the holster with the right hand and grasp the stock, back of hand outward.

At the command PISTOL, draw the pistol from the holster, reverse it, muzzle up, the hand holding the stock with the thumb and last three fingers; forefinger outside of the guard; barrel to the rear, and inclined to the front at an angle of about thirty degrees; hand as high as the neck and six inches in front of the point of the right shoulder. This is the position of Raise Pistol, and it may be similarly taken from any position.

When dismounted, with intervals, carry the right foot about twenty-four inches to the right and place the left hand in the position of the bridle hand.

3. I. Lower. II. PISTOL.

At the command PISTOL, lower the pistol without changing the grasp and rest the hand and pistol on the right thigh, back of hand up, muzzle in front of right knee.

When dismounted, lower the pistol without changing the grasp of the hand; arm by the side and nearly extended, back of hand to the right; barrel inclined to the front and downward. This position will not be used in close order mounted.

4. *To withdraw magazine, pistol in any position:*

I. Withdraw. II. MAGAZINE.

At the command MAGAZINE, turn back of left (rein) hand down; place pistol, barrel down, in left hand on reins and clasp barrel in full grip of left hand, thumb clasped over barrel in front of trigger guard, butt of pistol up, barrel pointing to the left front and slightly downward. With tip of right forefinger press stud releasing magazine and then place tip of same finger under projection at front of magazine base. Raise magazine about an inch, then close thumb and second finger on sides of magazine, giving a secure grasp with which it can be withdrawn from socket, placed inside bolt (in pocket of shirt or otherwise disposed of without throwing it away). Right hand then grasps stock, back of hand to the left.

5. *To open chamber, the pistol in any position:*

I. Open. II. CHAMBER.

Carry the pistol to the left hand (if not already there) barrel to the left, front end of slide grasped between thumb and forefinger of left hand; right hand grasping stock, back of hand up; right thumb under slide stop. Hold left hand steady and push forward with right hand till slide reaches end of stroke; engage slide stop, and come to Raise Pistol. Should the pistol be cocked and locked, it will be unlocked so that the slide can move.

6. *To close chamber, being at Raise Pistol, chamber open:*

I. Close. II. CHAMBER.

At the command CHAMBER, release slide stop with right thumb and let hammer down gently. To let hammer down, pull downward with point of right thumb till hammer presses against grip safety and forces it home; then while continuing



this pressure on hammer, pull trigger; and while continuing pull on trigger, let the hammer down. While letting hammer down, grasp stock firmly between the palm and last three fingers to prevent pistol rotating in hand.

7. *To insert magazine, pistol being in any position, no magazine in socket:*

I. Insert. II. MAGAZINE.

Lower pistol into left hand as in *withdraw magazine*, grasp magazine with tip of right forefinger on projection at base of magazine, withdraw from pocket and insert in pistol. To make sure that magazine is home, strike base of magazine with palm of right hand. Bring the pistol to the position of *Raise Pistol*.

8. *To return pistol, being at Raise Pistol:*

I. Return. II. PISTOL.

Lower the pistol and raise the flap of the holster with the right thumb; insert the pistol in the holster and push it down; button the flap with the right hand. If the pistol be loaded and cocked, the command I. Lock, II. PISTOL must precede the command "Return."

9. *To load, having loaded magazine in pistol, pistol in any position, chamber empty:*

I. Load. II. PISTOL.

Place pistol in left hand, barrel down, butt of pistol up, barrel pointing to left front and downward, slide grasped between thumb and forefinger. Push forward with right hand until the slide is fully open, then release slide allowing it to move forward and load cartridge into chamber. Come to *Raise Pistol*. If the last shot in the magazine has been fired, to reload; same command, but execute *Withdraw Magazine*, *Insert Magazine*, *Close Chamber*. As soon as the pistol is loaded, it will be immediately locked by the commands, I. Lock, II. PISTOL. Should the command for locking pistol be inadvertently omitted it will be locked without command.

10. *To unload pistol, being in any position, loaded:*

Execute by the commands, *Withdraw Magazine*, *Open Chamber*, *Close Chamber*, *Insert Magazine*.



11. *To inspect pistol, it being in the holster:*

I. Inspection. II. PISTOL.

Execute, Raise Pistol.

To inspect the pistol more minutely, add III. Withdraw, IV. MAGAZINE, V. Open, VI. CHAMBER.

To avoid accidents, individual men out of ranks, in barracks or camp will first *Withdraw Magazine* then *Open Chamber* whenever the pistol is removed from the holster for cleaning, for examination, or for any other purpose. Accidental discharges will not occur if the above rule is always observed, and failure to observe it must be considered a military offense, whether or not accident results.

12. Whenever men fall in ranks with the automatic pistol the officer or non-commissioned officer in charge will command:

I. Raise, II. PISTOL;

I. Withdraw, II. MAGAZINE;

I. Open, II. CHAMBER;

I. Close, II. CHAMBER;

I. Insert, II. MAGAZINE;

I. Return, II. PISTOL.

When falling in dismounted the above commands are given after chamber of rifles have been opened and closed, and the order resumed—the rifle being held against the left wrist. The commander of any troop or detachment thereof is responsible for giving the necessary commands to put the pistols in a safe condition.

13. The pistol with cartridge in chamber is habitually carried *cocked and locked*, whether in the hand or in the holster. The hammer will not be lowered while a cartridge is in the chamber.

14. In campaign, the pistol should habitually be carried with a magazine in the socket, loaded with *seven* ball cartridges, chamber empty, hammer down. The extra magazines should also be loaded with seven ball cartridges each.

When action seems imminent, the pistol should be loaded by command. It may then be returned by command to the holster till the time for its use arrives.

15. Recruits are first taught the motions of loading and firing without using cartridges. However, the automatic action and the effect of ball cartridges in operating the slide can not be taught without firing ball cartridges. Practice without cartridges is very necessary to acquire *facility* in the exact movements of the manual, and in aiming, holding, and trigger squeeze.

To execute the movements without cartridges, first *withdraw magazine, open chambers, and examine both pistols and magazines* to assure that none contain ball cartridges.

*The automatic pistol must at all times be assumed to be loaded with ball cartridges until an inspection has disclosed that it is not so loaded.*

16. All the movements in loading pistol should be practiced without looking at it, in order that the trooper mounted may execute them in action, while moving at any gait, and be free at all times to look to the front and control the movements of his horse. In order to do this successfully it is necessary to know exactly where the magazines are carried so the hand may find them without fumbling. Also, since the projection at the front of the magazine base is on the same side as the bullets, and the magazine must be inserted in the socket with these to the front, the magazine should be carried in the pocket with the projection to the left and should be withdrawn from the pocket with the same grasp as is prescribed for *Withdraw Magazine*.

17. The Manual of the pistol and the firings will be frequently practiced, by the specified commands, at all gaits.

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HEADQUARTERS PUNITIVE EXPEDITION, U. S. ARMY,  
Instruction Memorandum Order, DUBLAN, MEXICO,  
No. 24. December 12, 1916.

#### PISTOL DEMONSTRATION.

The demonstration will be held at 9 o'clock A. M., December 13th, two miles west of camp. All officers and all non-commissioned officers who are armed with a pistol, will be required to attend.

## OBJECT.

1. The object of this demonstration is to show the methods used and the conclusions reached by the pistol board appointed by these headquarters to make an exhaustive study of training men and horses in mounted pistol work. The theory upon which the board proceeded will be illustrated in the course of firing followed in the demonstration. This course has been tentatively recommended by the board for troops of this command and will probably be adopted with some modification. The tentative Manual of the Pistol already published to the command will be shown in detail and the reasons for its adoption will be explained and discussed.

## TENTATIVE PISTOL COURSE SUGGESTED BY THE BOARD.

2. *Preliminary Instruction.*

## (a) Dismounted—

Firing with ball cartridges will be preceded by thorough drill in the Manual of the Pistol in the Position and Aiming Drills, dismounted, as explained in the Small Arms Firing Manual, and in the following exercises which will strengthen the muscles of the fingers, wrists and forearm.

*First.*—I. Arms sideward, palms up. II. RAISE. III. Finger Exercise. IV. CLOSE. V. OPEN. Close and open the fingers vigorously, separating the fingers when open. Resume the position of a soldier at the command HALT. Vary the exercise by turning the palms to the front, down, and to the rear.

*Second.*—I. Arms sideward, palms up. II. RAISE. III. Wrist Exercise. IV. UP. V. DOWN or IV. FRONT. VI. REAR. Bend the wrist according to the command, keeping the fingers extended and joined. Resume the position of a soldier at the command HALT. Vary the exercise as in *First*.

*Third.*—I. Right arm forward. II. RAISE. III. Forefinger exercise. IV. CLOSE. V. OPEN. Close and open the forefinger vigorously without moving the other fingers which are held tightly closed as in gripping the pistol. Resume the position of a soldier at the command HALT.

*Fourth.*—Being at the Raise Pistol, chamber and magazine empty. I. Quick Fire Exercise. II. ONE. Lower the forearm until the pistol is pointed at the target. III. Two. Thrust the pistol forward to the position of aim, snapping the pistol just before the arm reaches its full extension. IV. THREE Return to Raise Pistol, and cock the pistol.

(b) Mounted—

During the dismounted range practice keep the horses tied near the firing line.

Drill the men thoroughly in the Manual of the pistol while mounted at the halt, walk, trot and gallop. Pay particular attention to the motions of loading and to changing magazines. Every movement should be made with definite exactness thus eliminating carelessness due to indecision. The position of Raise Pistol should be held firmly. The position of "charge" as explained in the first paragraph of (b) Mounted Range Practice requires especial attention.

To accustom the horses to firing mounted march the platoon or troop in line, and at command require certain specified men to fire about forty-five degrees upward to the front, and instruct the men not to jerk their horses. Later, require all men to load one round in their magazines, and at command have Numbers 1 fire, then Numbers 2, etc. Progress easily to the same firing at the gallop, and to firing two or three rounds a piece. Practice same kind of firing at suspended targets until the horses are accustomed to them. It will generally be found that the horses are more easily trained to firing collectively than individually. Before beginning the instruction practice require the fours or sections to run at the target without firing.

3. *Range Practice.* (Instruction.)

(a) Dismounted—

*Slow Fire.*—Same as described in Small Arms Firing Manual. Target A.

*Quick Fire.*—Being at the Raise Pistol, pistols locked, at the command "Commence Firing," fire and return to Raise Pistol after each shot, following the principles of the Quick Fire Exercise. Position is the same as that prescribed for Raise

Pistol with intervals. Target E, five yards apart, one for each man firing.

*Automatic Fire.*—Being at Raise Pistol, pistols locked, at the command "Commence Firing" empty the magazine in seven seconds, keeping the arm extended. Position is the same as for Slow Fire.

*Trench Fire.*—Target, two lines of E targets ten yards apart; the first line is composed of one figure for each man firing, five yards apart, the second line is composed of two figures for each men firing placed immediately in rear of the figure in the first line, one yard between centers. Advance at the double time from 100 yards to the first line firing one shot at the first line at about 10 yards from it continuing the double time; halt at the first line and fire 6 shots, automatic fire, at the targets in the second line.

*Score.*—A score will be seven shots. Targets will be marked after each man completes a score.

#### COURSE.

(1) Slow Fire, 10 yards, minimum of 1, maximum of 3 scores.

(2) Slow Fire, 25 yards, minimum of 1, Maximum of 3 scores.

(3) Quick Fire, 10 yards, minimum of 1, maximum of 3 scores.

(4) Quick Fire, 25 yards, minimum of 1, maximum of 3 scores.

(5) Automatic Fire, 10 yards, minimum of 1, maximum of 3 scores.

(6) Automatic Fire, 25 yards, minimum of 1, maximum of 3 scores.

(7) Trench Fire, 1 run of 7 shots about 8 men at a time.

A record of this practice will be kept in the organization showing the percentage of hits for each kind of fire.

(b) Mounted—

Firing to the front is conducted as a "charge" from at least 150 yards from the target, gradually increasing the gait to full

speed of the slower horses and regulating on a guide who will be designated. At the command "Charge" given at about fifty yards from the target the troopers lean forward resting the weight of the body on the left forearm placed on the upper half of the horse's neck, the right hand with pistol being carried as far to the front as possible, over and between the horse's ears without touching him, and the pistol kept pointed at the target during the firing. In leaning forward the seat should be de-ranked as little as possible, the lower legs being held close to the horse at the girth and not carried to the rear. The men firing pass under the targets before decreasing the speed.

*Target.*—For Exercise 1 to 12 inclusive, 12 E targets, numbered if desired, suspended from a rope or wire stretched between two poles about thirty yards apart; Figures one yard between centers, and the lower edge about the height of a man's head sitting erect on his horse. These exercises constitute one kind of fire.

#### COURSE.

- (1) To the front, four men as foragers, gallop.....1 shot
- (2) To the front, four men as foragers, gallop.....2 shots
- (3) To the front, four men as foragers, gallop.....4 shots
- (4) To the front, four men as foragers, gallop.....4 shots
- (5) To the front, four men in close order, gallop.....1 shot
- (6) To the front, four men in close order, gallop.....2 shots
- (7) To the front, four men in close order, gallop.....4 shots
- (8) To the front, four men in close order, gallop.....4 shots
- (9) To the front, by sections of 12 men, in close order, gallop, - 1 shot.
- (10) To the front, by sections of 12 men, in close order gallop, - 2 shots.
- (11) To the front, by sections of 12 men, in close order, gallop, - 4 shots.
- (12) To the front, by sections of 12 men, in close order, gallop, - 4 shots.
- (13) Target-Four E paper targets pasted on A targets arranged in line ten yards apart, ten yards from and facing the track. Two scores of seven shots each to the right and two to

the left. Mark after each score. Fire one shot at least at each target, otherwise distribute the shots at will. Conduct the practice as prescribed for similar exercises in Small arms Firing Manual, except that four men will run at a time, only the man on the target flank firing.

(14) Time Test: Loading the pistol at a gallop.

Target.—Three E targets placed 100 yards apart, five yards from and facing the track.

Each trooper at the starting point (one magazine in the pistol and two magazines in the pocket, one cartridge in each magazine) loads from the magazine, enters the track at the gallop about twenty yards from the first target, fires at the first target when opposite it; changes magazines and loads (keeping a gait of at least twelve miles an hour, on the track); fires at the second target when opposite it; and repeats the operation for the third target. The time between the first and third shots must not be more than thirty-four seconds.

The object of this exercise is to test the trooper's skill in loading at the gallop, keeping control of his horse, and arranging before starting so as to quickly dispose of empty magazines and procure loaded ones. The targets need not be examined nor pasted, the record being a matter of time only. If the time limit is exceeded the exercise will be repeated (with or without cartridges) till the proper speed is attained; that is, 100 yards between shots, horse traveling about 100 yards in seventeen seconds, or faster if the loading can be done more quickly.

Except for Exercise 14 a record will be kept in the organization showing the percentage of hits for each kind of fire.

4. *The following additional Exercises tried out by the Board will be shown.*

(a) Four men as foragers firing four shots at suspended targets and two shots at elevated E targets, changing magazines between targets, distance between targets approximately 100 yards.

(b) Column of twos firing to the right and left at E targets arranged in two lines of seven each, facing the track twelve yards apart, ten yards between targets: This tactical forma-

tion might be necessary in moving rapidly through a narrow passage.

(c) Charging by section of twelve men each, close order at the drop target, firing four shots per man: This approximately represents the mounted charge against cavalry.

(d) Charging by platoon, close order, at suspended targets, firing four shots per man, mounted on horses that have not been used in any of the practice at any time: This feature will illustrate the possibility of using the average untrained cavalry mount in the charge, and will demonstrate the entire feasibility of charging a line of mounted men to the front with the pistol without previously training horses for the purpose. The principles that horses will advance in company with other horses boot to boot, much the same as men will advance more courageously with a touch of elbows, is brought out clearly in this exercise.

By command of Major General PERSHING:

OFFICIAL:

E. S. WALTON,  
Major, 17th Inf.,  
Acting Adjutant.

J. L. HINES,  
Major, Adjutant General,  
Acting Chief of Staff.





## EXTRACTS FROM A REGIMENTAL SCRAP BOOK.

BY SEV. H. MIDDAGH.

*Organization and five years service on the Rio Grande, 1855—1861.*

IN reading over my notes on the Porto Rican service of the regiment, it becomes evident, that those readers who are unacquainted with its previous service, will fail to understand the term, "*The Fighting Fifth*," a well earned title,—making it desirable to turn back the leaves of our "*scrap book*" for a new start.

From the following extract, it would appear that we have succeeded in uncovering the beginning of things:

"When Mr. Jefferson Davis, the War Secretary in 1855, had succeeded in the adoption of his pet scheme for the organization of two new mounted regiments, he set out at once to make them worthy of his patronage. Much opposition had been encountered from that class of politicians who are inimical to a regular army; who pretend to fear many plans for conquest abroad or reward favorites at home, so that, among other compromises, about half of the new appointments were made from civil life. Among the officers of the army, great rivalry existed for the new places, on account of the prospective increase in rank. Mr. Davis then displayed that fine judgment in the selecting of men, which has been said to be the first requisite of greatness, and which afterwards enabled him to place the fate of the Southern Confederacy in the best hands from the early days of the war." So we find the birthday of our regiment, organized as the Second Cavalry, falls on March 3d, the authorization of its organization having been approved March 3, 1855.

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On March 26th, the assignment of officers was announced by the War Department and the cavalry regiments designated as a distinct arm, promotions therein being regulated accordingly. Our regimental headquarters were established at Louisville, Ky., from where the recruiting was superintended by the regimental commander, to whom its newly appointed officers reported by letter with suggestions as to places in their neighborhoods where recruiting rendezvous could be advantageously established.

Some little time was required for the carrying out of this preliminary work, but by the middle of May we find the recruiting in full force, the recruits being concentrated at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where our Lieutenant Colonel (Robert E. Lee) and a few troop officers were ordered in June and the regiment organized. With two exceptions all the officers were withdrawn from recruiting service in August and placed on duty with their troops; the regimental headquarters being transferred to Jefferson Barracks in September.

"The first drills were conducted by Major Hardee, the author of the tactics of that day and the early discipline soon felt the master hands of such men as Johnston, Lee and Thomas assisted by as good a lot of soldiers as ever spurred steed in fight or foray."

The horses were obtained mostly in Kentucky, by officers designated by regimental order, at an average price of one hundred and fifty dollars. Later, we find where after six years of the hardest kind of service most of them were left behind with deep sorrow, when General Twiggs surrendered to the State of Texas.

During the summer, owing to the new mode of life and duties, but principally to the existing health conditions at the barracks, cholera appearing among the men on several occasions, many from dissatisfaction and fear of the disease deserted. In addition the troops were inconvenienced for the want of proper and sufficient clothing, which, requisitioned for in May did not arrive until the middle of September. Still, on the 27th of the following month, we find our men (fully armed and equipped, clad in their new close-fitting jackets, trimmed with yellow braid, the ostrich plumes of their black hats, looped

with an eagle at the side, trailing in the breeze) leaving Jefferson Barracks in the wake of their Regimental Standard on their maiden march through a sparsely settled country, to their new station, Fort Belknap, Texas.

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Each glance at that Standard today, causes a heart-throb, to those who in their reminiscence recall their service while lead by it over our states and territories and foreign possessions. And so we, following it from the beginning, hitting its trail here and there through the aid of our scrap book, do it with interest and pride. Leading us during these early days along that far western border, we find the record of forty engagements with Lipan, Apache, Kiowa and Commanche Indians, and with Mexican guerillas. "All who know how hard it is to catch an Indian on the war-path will appreciate the hard riding, the winter cold, the summer thirst, the quarries trailed but never flushed, the wakeful nights, the heavy days involved in that brief record."

Then it leads us over the blood-sodden fields of the Civil War, over the territory of the Military Division of the Missouri, recalling to our memory the Staked Plains of Texas, a term scarcely recognized by the khaki clad soldier of today, the great American Desert of Wyoming, which has now lost its terrors for the traveler, the Lava-strewn beds of Idaho, the painted Bad Lands of the Dakotas, the Buffalo plateaus of Utah, the desolate sinks of Nevada, and the sun-kissed tablelands of New Mexico and Arizona.

Again we are reminded of that service on the storm swept island of Porto Rico, and the cholera stricken masses of the Philippines. It has been the fortune of many of us now following the Standard to have passed over nearly every foot of the ground referred to, perhaps at times alighting from a Pullman Palace Car, to enjoy dinner in a city located on the ground that in these early days was to our men a water hole, landmark and camping place located on the map, to be gained only by the aid of their compass. Still these men were then making history.

The maps of 1850 showed much of what is now Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma as the Great American Desert. Of our new conquests little was known other than the names of the territories.

There is no need to dwell upon the cleaning up of these immense territories, as we shall later follow our regiment as it aids in the task. Through modern and popular literature, we are constantly reminded of the enormous deeds performed by the Path Finder and the almost unsurmountable obstacles overcome by the American Cow Boy, but, there was a man in advance of both! The man who blazed the trail for the Path Finder and made available the immense tracts of territory for the grazing of the beef cattle, a positive necessity before we find the birth of our Cow Boy, and that man was the regular soldier!

We now run across those men in every stage of life and occupation. Men who left the service after the completion of their "*Five year hitch*," and those whose service mounts the various stages up to the thirty year mark, minus double time. We find them associated with our statesmen, representatives of their people from our national capital down to the ward boss. We find them engaged in the various professions. We find them among the merchants and tradesmen. In fact, they are to be found scattered broadcast throughout the world engaged in their various pursuits. We find the retired men engaged as instructors to militia and at colleges, employed by nation and state. We find him enjoying the benefits of his own cottage and land, the product of a thrifty life. We find him camped along some clear and shady stream endeared to him by some incident of the service and we find him occupying a favorite chair in a dingy bar room waiting for pay day. But! No matter where you find him, take your hat off to him! He has made it possible for you and me to live.

Now let's take up the trail.

\* \* \* \* \*

Moving out from Jefferson Barracks on the morning of October 27, 1855, we follow the regiment, with its supply train of twenty-nine wagons, carrying the commissary supplies which

could not be procured west of that place, while the resources of the country traversed were relied upon to furnish meat and flour, Lieutenants Shaaff and Minter keeping well in advance of the column making arrangements for their supply and for forage. All clothing and baggage not required for the march had been shipped by water under charge of Lieutenant McArthur.

The command arrived at Fort Belknap on December 27th, having passed through Springfield, Mo., Fort Gibson and Fort Washita, located at the Cherokee and Choctaw Nations respectively, enroute. Headquarters and six troops proceeded to Fort Mason, on the Rio Llano for station while the remaining four troops under Major Hardee, established a camp on the Clear Fork of the Brazos, known as Camp Cooper. Troops "L" and "M" had not been organized.

The topography of Texas, taking in much of what is now Colorado and Kansas, showed an area of two hundred and thirty seven thousand square miles of which little was known, and its border at the time of the arrival of the regiment was filled with terror, the Indians having plundered the country within twenty miles of Austin. There was plenty of work, and as to how it was performed can be best understood by looking over the list of battles and reports of operations from 1856 to 1861, recording a work over a country extending from the Red River in Northern Texas to Fort Brown on the Rio Grande.

Much of the time was passed under canvas, with a certainty of a change of station once each year. There was constant scouting, and the plains of Texas were made famous by the gallant deeds performed by our officers and men, and the frontier soon became an unpopular field for operations of marauding Indians. By troops and detachments the regiment was constantly represented in the field, now camping beside a clear, running stream, followed by a night at a water-hole on the sunburned plain; one day enjoying a superb climate, the next facing a terrible "*norther*." The march varied from a trail along a shaded water course to that leading over a prairie where, with empty canteens, which as the trail became fresh would be forgotten, the men would push on for days and days that they might overtake and punish the marauding savage

until they resembled the Indian whom they pursued, more than the soldier they were.

We also get a glimpse of the social life of that day, the wives of the officers who finding their way to the palatial residences provided for them, built of stone or logs chinked with mud, with a clay floor and an earthen roof, counted themselves happy when it was no worse, while articles which we regard as necessities, even ice, and potatoes, were unheard of luxuries in this distant sagebrush Eden, and scurvy was a well known word in the hospital records. These houses, the homes of a few married officers, formed charming social resorts which helped to keep alive the graces and refinements of civilization, and many a jolly party met within their narrow walls and the Thanksgiving turkey was none the less enjoyed when the guests had to sit on the family beds in order to arrange themselves at table. Colonel Johnston's quarters at Fort Mason consisted of one small room for himself and family.

On February 22, 1856, Captain Oakes opened our list of engagements which today will compare favorably with any similar list filed in the archives at Washington. Nine more are shown for the year in the report of operations and fourteen for the year following, which gives some idea of the work performed.

To attempt a detailed report of this work with the limited knowledge in possession of the writer, would be to defeat the object of the assembling of these extracts, which, is to show at first hand, the work done by the regular soldier under the varied conditions amid which he is employed.

The list of stations of troops show that the men were enlisted in the southern states and that among our officers of that day, were nineteen who had served in the war with Mexico, seven of whom held brevet rank for gallant and meritorious service during that war. A study of the map leaves no doubt as to the hard riding, while a comparison of the detachments with the number of the enemy encountered, and the results of each engagement, gives a far better understanding of the work, than any narrative that could be written therefrom, but space will not permit of recording them here. Many

from a fighting point of view, were minor affairs, still there was plenty of hard work connected with each.

With reference to the engagements on February 22, 1856, we find that Troop "C," on a scout from Fort Mason, picked up a trail which was followed for six days before the Indians were encountered at the headwaters of the Nueces River. During this time the men were exposed to very cold and wet weather, and in the fight one Indian was killed while several were wounded and their animals and property captured. Sergeant Reis and Private Kuhn were severely wounded and the troop for more than seven days subsisted on two day's allowance of bread and coffee with such game as they could kill and the flesh of horses they were obliged to abandon. On March 8th, Troop "I," overtook a party of Lipans on the Guadalupe River, killing three warriors and in addition to their horses and mules captured a large supply of clothing, land papers of importance and a draft of one thousand pounds sterling which had been taken from the settlers on the Ciblo, near San Antonio. This account conveys a fair idea of the cause for running these renegades down.

Captain E. W. Johnson, with twenty-five men of Troop "F," closed the engagements for the year. He set out from Camp Colorado and after a search of seven days ran upon a part of Seneco's band of Comanche's near the head of the Main Concho and having driven them into the chaparral, charged them, dismounted, killing three and wounding others. But he also met with losses and Bugler Campion and Private Lamb were killed by arrow shots through the heart, while Sergeant Gardner and Private McKin were slightly wounded.

Captain Brackett was the first to take the field in 1857, with Troop "I," from Fort Clark. His operations covered a period of thirty-two days, during which he had marched six hundred miles before he discovered the band of hostiles near the Arroyo de Los Encinas, between Eagle Pass and Laredo, which had succeeded in gaining the shelter of a dense thicket of trees and bushes lining the banks of the stream. They were pursued for five miles down an arroyo emptying in the Rio Grande, but the troop was obliged to give up the chase due to the deep ravines encountered and the injury to the horses by



the thorns of the prickly pears and mesquite bushes and the Spanish bayonets which they were obliged to pass through. In spite of all that could be done, the Indians succeeded in escaping to the Mexican side of the river but their retreat was so hasty that a considerable part of their property was abandoned.

A fair idea is given of the chances taken by our men while engaged in this work, from the reports of an engagement on April 4, 1857, on which date Lieutenant Jenifer with thirteen men of the troop ("B") after a search of fourteen days and a march of nearly three hundred miles, hit upon a trail near the head of the North Fork of the Nueces River, which lead into a rocky country almost impracticable for cavalry. He dismounted his detachment and leaving his horses with a guard, continued the pursuit with seven men. After a tedious march of four miles he suddenly came upon a camp occupied by from eighty to one hundred Indians. Approaching it under cover to within two hundred and fifty yards, his little party were discovered and attacked by all the warriors in the camp, and at the same time were threatened by a party returning with horses. The Indians were repulsed with a loss of to them two killed and one wounded, when, under darkness of approaching night, the detachment withdrew and returned to their horses. The next morning the lieutenant returned to renew the attack, but in the meantime the Indians had dispersed. For the last three of the seventeen days during which the detachment was in the field, it had no rations.

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In April, 1858, orders were received for the regiment to proceed via Fort Arbuckle, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, but the movement was countermanded in May, after the concentration of the regiment at Fort Belknap for the march. Reports from Fort Arbuckle, situated on the Washita River in the Chickasaw Nation, I. T., had been received to the effect that a large band of Apaches, Comanches and Cheyennes were on the Canadian River, near the Antelope Hills, and that the depredations which were being committed by them upon the settlements of the Choctaw Nation were for the purpose of capturing horses to



make incursions upon the frontier of Texas. General Twiggs, commanding the department, requested permission to send an expedition into the Indian country, employing the troops enroute to open a wagon road to Wichita Mountains, or as near thereto as possible. It was believed that if the troops could remain in the field during the winter, the frontier would be measurably secure against attacks from these bands.

The expedition finally selected for this duty consisted of Troops "A" "F," "H" and "K" of the regiment with a detail of one officer, three non-commissioned officers and fifty privates from Cos. "C" and "F" First Infantry, under command of Captain Earl Van Dorn, Second Cavalry. It was to move from Fort Belknap to Otter Creek, west of the Wichita Mountains, establish at some suitable point a supply camp, guarded by the Infantry detachment, while the cavalry were to scout the country between the Red River and the North Fork of the Canadian, following any discovered Indian trails without reference to department limits.

Marching from Fort Belknap on the 15th of September, a generally north-west course was pursued and arriving at Otter Creek on the 23d, the supply station was established in the friendly timber on the south side of that stream. A stockade was erected for the protection of the animals and supplies during the absence of the cavalry, which were to take the field as soon as the defense was completed.

The site of this camp, Radziminski, was located at the mouth of one of the most ruggedly picturesque cañons in the Wichita Mountains. From the summit of Mount Radziminski, nearly a thousand feet above the level of the adjacent plains, the outlines of the main range of mountains to the east and north, the great sweeping curves of the North Fork of the Red River to the west, and the timber fringed course of Otter Creek near its foot, furnished a pleasant view in return for the hard climb up its steep slopes, strewn with a continuous succession of boulders.

Information was received on September 29th, through the Indian Scouts, that a large encampment of hostile Comanches was located near the Wichita Village on Horse Creek, in the Choctaw Nations, nearly due east and about forty miles distant

from the camp. The cavalry set out on what was to terminate in a "*bad day for the Van's.*"

After a forced march of ninety miles in thirty-six hours, the command, a little after daylight on the morning of October 1st, came upon the camp of the hostiles, consisting of one hundred and twenty lodges occupied by between four and five hundred Indians. They were immediately charged and after a most desperate struggle of an hour and a half, during which there were many bloody hand to hand conflicts, achieved a most decisive and important victory. Fifty-six Indians were left dead on the field, the lodges were burned, over three hundred animals were taken and a large quantity of supplies appropriated or destroyed, and the surviving Indians dispersed among the mountains in a destitute condition.

After the fight, it was found that Lieutenant Van Camp had been shot through the heart with an arrow while charging the enemy. Sergeant J. E. Harrison of Troop "F," and Privates Peter Magar and Jacob Echard of Troop "H" were also killed. Captain Van Dorn received four wounds and eleven others of the command were wounded, not counting the sutler Mr. J. F. Ward, and Mr. S. Ross, the special agent in charge of the friendly Indians who had volunteered for the expedition and are deserving of great praise for their gallantry in action. During the combat, Captain N. G. Evans, Second Lieutenants Harrison and Phifer had each killed two and Lieutenant Major had killed three Indians in hand to hand encounters.

On October 10th, the command returned to camp where it remained until the 28th, when, having rested and recruited their horses, under command of Captain Whiting, it departed for the Antelope Hills and examined the country to the North and South Canadian Rivers, returning November 4th.

Preparations were now made to occupy the camp during the winter. The shelter consisted of tents, made snug with walls of logs with turf about them. There being no fortifications, the supplies were constantly guarded as were the picket lines which lay along the south side of the camp, nestling at the lower end of the cañon through which the creek flowed, protected to some extent, from the wintry blasts by the low mountain range. Supplies for the subsistence of the command

were freighted by wagons from the Texas settlements in the region of the Brazos.

It is needless to state that camp life during the winter was a continuous round of ease. Captain Van Dorn, though wounded almost unto death, with a long season of convalescence to try his restless spirit, began plans and preparations for a vigorous campaign against the Comanches, which was to be carried out during his absence, it being his intention, as soon as he was able to travel, to visit his home in Mississippi. This plan was carried out, and during that time one of his sisters, a gifted musician, composed and dedicated to him a piece of martial music entitled "*The Wichita March*," which became a great favorite with the regimental band.

During his absence, a large number of recruits were received, who with the seasoned troopers were subjected to frequent drills and thorough discipline, varied with play spells for hunting parties and expeditions among the peaks of the Wichitas, near at hand. In addition to the drills of officers and men, the horses were put through a course of training, foreign to the movements of evolution of the squad, troop and squadron. When turned out to graze, the whole herd was taught to gallop into camp at the slightest alarm, that attempts to stampede them by hostile Indians might be offset to a certain extent.

Though grain was supplied, there was no hay, and the stock were herded on the sun cured and nourishing buffalo gramma and mesquite grasses which covered the valley extending southward from the camp, and when the ground was covered with snow, as it was for several days at a time, they were fed on the bark and twigs of cottonwood trees.

Owing to a late spring, it was not until the end of April that the new grass had sufficiently matured to sustain the horses and mules of the command. Several friendly Indians, consisting of Caddos, Keechis, Tonkawas, Delawares and absentee Shawnees, from the fragmentary tribes then living on the Brazos Reserve, joined as guides under the leadership of Jack Harry, a Delaware, and Shawnee Jim, a veteran of the Texas Revolution and a man of more than ordinary intelligence who spoke good English.

Setting out on April 1, 1859, the cavalry marched northward toward the valley of the Washita, Canadian and Cimarron rivers. The route lay across to the valley of Elk Creek and up that stream to its source and across the divide into the valley of the Washita. The friendly Indians were used as feelers and scouts, detachments of which were kept ten miles in advance, with flankers far out to prevent the hostile Comanches and Kiowas from observing the advance of the command which would camp at sunset each day, but, as soon as darkness set in, would remount, advance several miles for the purpose of deceiving any prowling spies from hostile tribes, and then go in camp for the night.

On the fourth day out, after reaching the valley of the Washita, a scout brought in a Comanche boy who said his people were camped on a small stream two days journey beyond the Cimarron and who was persuaded to guide the command to their village. On reaching the valley of the Canadian, the stream, running bank full, could not be forded and the wagon train was parked, and supplies transferred to pack mules. The freshets having subsided to some extent, a crossing was effected and the march resumed.

The point where the wagon train had been left was about thirty miles below the Antelope Hills, where the route lay north to the Cimarron River, which was crossed near the stream-crossing of the present state line of Kansas. Following the valley of one of the tributaries of the Cimarron, there were found the abandoned camping grounds of several villages of Comanches and Kiowas. They appeared to have been occupied by at least two thousand Indians, the camp being scattered along the valley for several miles. Continuing the march in the same general direction, a fresh trail was soon struck and the second big engagement of the regiment with the enemy momentarily expected.

Next day, still following the trail until noon the command halted to rest in the valley of a little stream. Upon the banks a few trees were growing, and the horses were unsaddled and under a strong guard turned out to graze. Lieutenant Royall commanding the heard guard, dismounted his guard to graze

and rest their horses after having posted three or four videttes at suitable points around the herds.

The day was dark, a rain storm threatened, and about two p. m., three Indians were discovered endeavoring to creep between the videttes and stampede the herd. The guard immediately gave chase, while the frightened cavalry horses galloped into camp. Captain Van Dorn ordered "boots and saddles" sounded, and made ready for the message Royall would send. He had not long to wait. The Indians having secured their horses, fled at topmost speed closely pursued by Lieutenant Royall and his guard. Suddenly at right angles to the line of retreat which the Indian were shrewdly leading their pursuers, a large herd of Indian horses and ponies were described and surmising that the village was near, Lieutenant Royall sent a courier to appraise Captain Van Dorn of the discovery and that he intended to stampede the herd and hold the hostiles at bay until the arrival of the command.

With horses saddled and ready, a detail selected to remain with the pack mules, the command was mounted and at a gallop proceeded for the spot where Lieutenant Royall and his men had rounded up the Comanches, approximately three miles distant. Without their horses the Comanches were at a decided disadvantage, though none the less determined and defiant. Taking positions behind bushes, stunted trees and the low steep banks of the stream, their places of concealment were betrayed only by the "twing" of the bowstrings and the spiteful "swish" of the arrows that challenged the soldier's advance.

The command was now divided, mounted troopers being placed in elevated positions on either side of the valley while those dismounted were formed in line to sweep down the valley and drive the enemy from his place of concealment. As the order for the advance was given, the rain which had been threatening began to fall requiring the coolest and most undaunted individual bravery to advance upon the danger that presented itself in the fearful ravine. The troops moved into the darkness, and with a courage that challenged admiration, felt for the danger that they were called upon to encounter.

The Comanches fought without giving or asking quarter until there was not one left to bend a bow. Forty-nine were killed in the fight and thirty-six prisoners were taken, of whom six were men, the remainder being women and children.

At the beginning of the fight the spectacles of Captain Edmund Kirby Smith, having become blurred, he failed to see an Indian who, crouched behind a log, fired with either rifle or pistol hitting him in the fleshy part of the thigh, the ball barely missing the femoral artery as it crashed through his leg. Painful as was the wound, he remained with his troop until recall was sounded. Lieutenant Lee was struck in the right breast by an arrow which penetrated the lung and protruded from his back beneath the right shoulder, the shaft being pulled from his body by Lieutenant Cosby, who with the aid of a trooper carried and laid him beneath a sheltering tree.

In Troop "A," there was a "stump sucking" horse, ridden by Private Willis Burroughs, which during the gallop to the scene of the fight gave out. Burroughs following his comrades dismounted, was on the ground ready for duty when the charge was ordered, and was the only man killed outright during the fight. His body was buried on the battle field as was that of Sergeant Leverett, who died two days later from wounds received.

The command camped on the battle field for several days until the condition of the wounded warranted the return to Camp Radziminski. Lodge poles and buffalo skins obtained from the dismantled lodges were converted into litters on which, covered with dry grass and blankets, the wounded were transported. On the departure from this camp, Captain Smith mounted in the saddle and surrendered his litter to an enlisted man, and it is recorded that his wound was practically healed by the time he had completed the two hundred mile ride to camp. Lieutenant Lee, a jolly invalid, one day shortly after the return march had begun, sent for Lieutenant Cosby, and requested that the mules which furnished the motive power for his litter, the poles of which were suspended from the pack-saddles by thongs, be changed. The rear mule, a grey, he wished placed in front saying: "Every step he takes his muzzle comes within a few inches of my face and his long ears

flap in a way that I don't like. 'Familiarity breeds contempt' you know, and probably the mule feels that way about it, too, but of course he can't say so."

For the return journey, the command was divided, Captain Van Dorn, with a portion setting out by a circuitous route, in light marching order, while the remainder, under command of Captain Smith, with the wounded and prisoners, doubled back on its trail picking up the wagon train at the Canadian. Both columns arrived at their destination at about the same time, and, with the sending of the prisoners to San Antonio, one of the most brilliant and successful campaigns ever waged in the western wilderness was ended. Seldom mentioned in history, it nevertheless will suffer none from comparison with the exploits of Custer, or Miles, or McKenzie, with which we are yet to become acquainted.

The Comanches, impoverished and divided, being driven from their hunting grounds, disappeared and it was believed they had moved to the Arkansas River. Large herds of buffalo ranging over the prairies for fifty miles above Camp Radziminski, indicated that the favorite retreats of these nomadic people were within the shadows of the Wichita Mountains.

Some of the troops had marched fifteen hundred miles, none less than twelve hundred with broken down animals, and the endurance of the officers and men having been tasked to the limit, Captain Van Dorn recommended that if future operations were to be conducted, orders should be issued placing the Comanches at enmity with all the troops of the Army. That they should be pursued and chastised wherever found, from the Rocky Mountains to the Rio Grande, and taught that there could be no refuge of safety for them as long as they continued to rob and murder. He closed his recommendations with the truthful and forceable remark, that, "while a squadron of cavalry might be in pursuit of a party of marauding Indians, the members of the band might be smoking their pipes on the parade ground of a military station in a neighboring department as the invited guests of the commanding officer."

Arrangements having been made during the month of August for the reoccupation of Fort Mason, Captain Van Dorn,



on August 15th, was ordered to proceed to that post and take station.

\* \* \* \* \*

At Fort Belknap was Major Thomas with two squadrons of our regiment.

Near the post was the little town of Belknap, where there lived a number of families, the post sutler's establishment and two or three other mercantile enterprises, including a small paper, called the "White Man," that through a series of articles succeeded in exciting the suspicions and feelings of the people of the lower country. About the same time renegades made a practice of stealing a few horses in neighboring counties and these were run as far as the Brazos reserve and left to be picked up by the owners who were sure to be in hot pursuit along the trail, made plain by means of cast away moccasins and arrows that had been provided for the occasion. Suspicion naturally fell on the Indians of the reserve, while the "White Man" was busy disseminating every bit of news which was calculated to infuriate the restless citizens.

A hunting party consisting of an old man—Choctaw Tom—with his family, seven in all, left the reservation with permission to visit a small stream about six miles south of the reserve on a weeks hunting trip with no cause for fear or molestation. Indeed, he had made the settlements of Milan and Arlin possible; having always, with his little band, protected the settlers from the hostile Comanches. The granting of his hunting pass was unknown to the Indian haters of Parker County; he passed one night in camp and at daylight the next morning, he, his women and children were murdered. Not one escaped.

Upon receipt of the news of this massacre at the reservation, the Agent ordered all the Indians to assemble on the Agency prairie and urgently requested the protection of troops. Major Thomas responded in person with two troops of the regiment and three pieces of field artillery. After some little trouble between the Indians and the white renegades, orders were received to remove the Indians to the Indian Territory and several tribes were assembled for the transfer. They were es-



corted by two squadrons of the regiment and two companies of the Fifth Infantry under command of Major Thomas.

Starting out on their long journey on the morning of August 1, 1859, the command was joined the following day by a number of friendly Comanches from the upper agency, located near Camp Cooper, bringing the number of Indians up to ten tribes, numbering over two thousand souls, constituting one of the most remarkable cavalcades ever assembled on this continent. The start was accompanied by a babel of such noise, as the blasts from the cavalry trumpets; the fife's shrill notes with the accompanying roll of the infantry drums; the braying of the army mules, proclaiming their dismal protest, and the barking and howling and fighting of the dogs, of which each family was well supplied, all of which, with the mad scurrying of galloping Indians contributed to the uproar and confusion attending the departure of the command. There was little to break the monotony while passing through broken country, but, when in the open, the Indians would string out on either side of the military escort, for a mile or more, sweeping the level stretches as a skirmish line.

There were deer, antelope, wild turkeys, prairie chickens, quail, jack rabbits and various other game in abundance which were constantly being started by the advancing line with its three mile front. With the jumping of a bunch of deer on one flank and their dash along the front, the chase would begin. Led by the dogs, their number increasing as the game advanced, until there would be a thousand or more, representing all kinds, sizes and colors, followed by the scurrying Indians, furnished the escort much excitement and an appreciated diversion during the first part of the trip, but it proved to be the undoing of the dogs, which, worn out by the long chase, began to fall out along the stretches between streams, leaving but few to complete the journey.

The greater number of the Indians were mounted on horses or ponies, while others traveled on foot. Many transported their domestic belongings in bundles attached to trailing lodge poles drawn by ponies, while the commissary supplies were carried on wagons drawn by oxen. The march was made by easy stages, though distances were regulated by the location

of water along the route. The Red River was crossed a week after starting and another week was required to finish the trip to the valley of the Washita, where the Indians were to locate on a new reservation and where a new agency was to be established. So we find that while a portion of our men were engaged in deadly combat with the Red Men, another was busy hustling the Indian from a place of danger to that of safety.

Shortly after the return of Major Thomas' command, he set out with headquarters and five troops on an expedition to the upper waters of the Red and Canadian Rivers, marching thirty-eight miles west of the one hundredth meridian, then north-west to, or near the Camerons on an Indian trail, which soon became so obliterated by the tracks of buffalo that it was abandoned and the country examined in the vicinity, after which the expedition returned to the Canadian. Leaving camp, on this stream, November 5th, where the command had remained for five days, a course was taken southwest to the head of the Washita, then south to the Sweetwater Creek where Lieutenant Royall with Troops "C" and "G," were detached to examine the stream to its mouth. From there he was to move south, examining the country along his route until he crossed the Main or the South Fork of the Red River, and then march direct to Camp Cooper. The main body marching south-southwest, across the tributaries of the Red River to the crossing of the South Fork, arrived at Camp Cooper on November 22d. Although no Indians were discovered, a large section of the country was explored and valuable information obtained concerning the district, before unknown to white men.

The regiment had lived in the field near the close of the year, and due to the hard service and constant exposure, together with lack of sufficient forage, many of the horses died, many more were broken down and unserviceable, so that scarcely a troop was in condition to take the field if occasion demanded. And it did. Cortinas, with a large force of men, composed of Mexicans from both sides of the river, well supplied with munitions of war, was reported as committing murders and outrages and had probably taken the city of Brownsville, and had killed many of its citizens and was assuming a formidable and threat-

ening attitude at various points between the Nueces and the Rio Grande rivers. And in December we find our troops taking up positions to cope with this new danger threatening the border.

To cope with the Cortinas troubles, Troop "B," with a detachment of twenty men each from three other troops were sent to Fort Merrill, on the Nueces, about fifty miles northwest of Corpus Christi, to act in connection with other troops ordered to rendezvous at that place. Troops "C" and "F," with a detachment of Troop "E," were sent to Brownsville, and Troop "G," to Fort Inge from where it sent a detachment to occupy the camp on the Frio, as well as a guard to protect the public property at the Pendencia, until it could be removed to Fort Inge. Troop "I," occupied Camp Verde; Troop "K," proceeded to the head of the Nueces, a site known as Old Camp Wood, and Troop "H," established a camp in the vicinity of Eagle Pass.

The forces assembled at Brownsville, consisting of the cavalry, three companies of the First Artillery, serving as infantry, with two twenty-four pounder howitzers and three companies of Texas Rangers, numbering about three hundred and eighty officers and men, were commanded by Major Heintzelman of the First Infantry, who on December 14th, attacked a part of Cortinas' force at the Ebonal near Brownsville. After a sharp conflict the outlaws abandoned the blockade which they had established on the main road, and retreated up the Rio Grande until they effected a junction with the main body, the whole of which were driven up the river and overtaken at Rio Grande City, near Fort Ringgold, where, after a severe engagement, the troops gained a brilliant and decisive victory. The enemy, five hundred and fifty strong, were driven ten miles further, where they abandoned their arms, ammunition and supplies and sought safety in a hasty retreat across the Rio Grande into Mexico, having suffered a known loss of sixty-six killed and many wounded.

Cortinas continued to harass the border until the spring of 1860, and the bitter feelings aroused by his lawless aggressions were such as to soon bring about, if not checked or allayed, a state of war between the United States and Mexico. The belief was general, notwithstanding the protestations of the

Mexican authorities that they did not countenance the marauding outlaws, that they really did so by international non-action, and that they were afraid to disperse them.

In February 1860, we find Troop "E," in camp at Fort Brown, where it had moved from Reno, and in March, Troop "G" established a camp on the Rio Grande, just above that place. To these two troops was assigned the task of guarding about one hundred miles of the Rio Grande, a duty that it was impossible to perform with satisfactory results.

Captain Stoneman finally proposed to Lieutenant Kimmel who was in command of troop "G," that they cross the river and capture the town of La Mesa, about three miles distant, where it was reported Cortinas had established his headquarters. After an earnest consultation and believing they could capture the outlaw, on March 15th, reinforced by seventy-five states troops eager for the sport, they crossed the river and at daybreak carried the town by assault, killing and wounding several Mexicans and capturing three hundred armed men. They were greatly elated over their success, but they had captured a garrison of Mexican soldiers.!!

The result of their trip had not terminated as they had anticipated, and there was only one course to pursue, and it was promptly adopted. The prisoners were released and many apologies made for the unintentional mistake. Soon, however, they were confronted by four hundred Mexican infantry and ordered to return to the United States. This bluff was called by Captain Stoneman, who informed the Mexican colonel that no matter what might then happen, he could not be in any worse position so far as the question of a violation of international law was concerned, and he refused to comply with the demand until he had made further search for Cortinas. The colonel threatened to attack the troops, but evidently thought better of it and withdrew, saying that he would report the invasion to his department commander. A few days later Captain Stoneman received orders to return to his camp on the Rio Grande, which he carried out on March 20th, having searched the country for twenty miles in the interior during his five days stay on foreign soil.

The year of 1860, proves quite as interesting as the five previous years, the reports of operations showing that on February 16th, after a detachment of Troop "B" had succeeded in killing one of a pair of Indians which had been discovered leading away some stolen horses, Lieutenant Lee ran upon the other, who had succeeded in traversing the intervening prairie between Pecan Bayou and an adjoining wood, where he abandoned his pony and sought safety in a rocky ravine. There they were found in hand to hand combat by Trumpeter Hayes, but so closely embraced, that he was unable to fire on the Indian for fear of injuring the Lieutenant, who was obliged to fight it out to a finish, which he did, finally succeeding in throwing and killing his antagonist.

Ten days later Sergeant Chapman with nine men of Troop "A," uncovered a band between Brady's Creek and the Kickapoo. Protected as they were, by steep bluffs on one side and deep chaparral on the other, he charged them, first mounted and then on foot, and put in three hours of hard fighting before he succeeded in subduing them. At about the same spot Captain Johnson with the troop, came upon a party of Comanches and succeeded in capturing their horses but was unable to reach them by a mounted charge, enabling them to slip away with small loss. During the pursuit, which was continued until after dark, it was ascertained that whites were intermingled with the reds, as two men were overheard speaking the English language too fluently for Indians. A further search shows that on August 26th, the regimental commander Major Thomas, was twice wounded severely, in the chest and chin, while the wounding of two troopers of Troop "D," and a sergeant and two privates of the band in a fight with Indians on the Salt Fork of the Brazos, furnishes an instance where members of the field, troops and band received marks of battle in the same engagement.

No less interesting is the account of where Corporal Rutter with eight men of Troop "B," who after riding for two days through a heavy rain storm reached Sabano Creek. He was in pursuit of a band of horse thieves, and although the swollen condition of the stream made swimming necessary, they took the plunge, and on arriving at the opposite side, scrambled up

the bank right into the Indians' camp. The only choice was an immediate charge which was carried out, but owing to the swim only three or four of their carbines were serviceable, the others misfiring. This condition was as readily discovered by the Indians as by the members of the detachment, and acting promptly they forced their way through the corporal's line, leaving behind the stock which he had been sent to recover. Two Indians were wounded and one of the corporal's men was killed. This is an instance of where a detachment continued the pursuit during a heavy rain storm when even the Indians were awaiting a change of weather.

We have now reached the point where we find the service of the regiment on the Texas frontier is soon to terminate; the state having demanded, through its commissioners, the delivery of the military posts and public property within the limits of the Department of Texas, commanded by General Twiggs, who on February 18, 1861, ordered the posts evacuated by their troops which were to take up a line of march out of Texas by way of the coast, marching out with their arms, clothing, camp and garrison equipage, quartermaster supplies, subsistence, medical and hospital stores and such means of transportation of every kind necessary for an efficient and orderly movement of the troops, which were to carry provisions with them as far as the coast.

For years, our regiment had stood between the settlers and the Indians—protecting each from the wrong doings of the other—winning thereby the unbounded admiration of the citizens of the state, and when it was rumored that there would be conflicts between the regulars and the state troops, the people appealed to the governor to prevent such a calamity, stating that the regular army had made with its best blood many places within the State holy and almost classic ground, and that black indeed would be that page in Texas history which should record such contests.

To prevent concentration at any northern station by marching through the Indian Territory, the troops stationed at distant points were first sent to the coast. Captains Oakes, Stoneman, and Whiting made efforts to unite their commands for this purpose—making Fort Leavenworth or Jefferson Barracks the objective point—but were prevented, owing to lack of

transportation, while it was found that there was barely enough subsistence stores on hand to supply the troops enroute to the coast. Being widely separated, the troops were obliged to accept the situation or be held as prisoners of war until they could be exchanged. The "Order of Exercises" was complete in all details, and the regiment could do no better than submit to it and get out of the country as soon as possible.

During this period, the insurgents had raised troops to occupy the forts and protect the frontiers. The Indians, emboldened by the withdrawal of the regulars, made frequent attacks on the settlers in the vicinity of Fort Inge, murdering citizens and stealing property, leaving the settlers in a state of alarm. They revelled in carnivals of blood and plunder until Lieutenant Arnold with Troop "C", which had not as yet left that post, set out in pursuit and pushed the marauding Comanches so closely that they were obliged to seek safety on Mexican soil, our regiment thereby discharging its duty to the state, to the very last hour, and even after its citizens had hauled down the "Stars and Stripes" from their flag staff, replacing the national emblem with the "Lone Star" flag.

During this eventful period, Colonel Johnston was at San Francisco, commanding the Department of California; Colonel Lee was soon ordered to Washington for the purpose of offering him a command in the field; Major Thomas and Captain Van Dorn were on leave of absence. In February the regiment commenced its exodus from the State, the first detachment of four troops marching to Green Lake, and Troops "E" and "G" were transported by steamer to Brazos, Santiago, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, then by sea to Indianola from where the first detachment embarked on the steamship *Coatzacoalco* and proceeded by way of Key West and Havana, to New York, where they arrived on the 11th of April, being met at that place by Major Thomas. They then moved by rail to Carlisle Barracks and arrived on the 13th. Troops "D" and "H" were ordered on the 17th to Washington for duty. Headquarters and the remaining four troops followed soon after, and uniting at Indianola, they embarked on the steamship *Empire City*, arriving at Carlisle Barracks, April 27, 1861.

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Upon the arrival of the second detachment at San Antonio the "Lone Star" flag was flying over the Alamo, while the troops marched through the principal streets with the regimental standard and troop guidons displayed and the band playing "Yankee Doodle" and "Hail Columbia"; a large number of citizens following beyond the city limits, where they presented the regiment with a United States flag. The following afternoon, on reaching Goliad, a Secession flag was found displayed from the principal flagstaff, which during the night, the troopers cut down, and as they marched through the town the following morning it was displayed as headstreamer for the train mules.

The day after this detachment sailed from Indianola, a Confederate force entered the harbor and captured the remaining transport steamship *Star of the West*, while all the national troops remaining in the State were captured and paroled as prisoners of war.

The loyalty of the men was severely tested before leaving. State agents offered them good pay and liberal bounty if they would enter the Confederate service, but no further evidence than our regimental returns is required to illustrate their faithfulness to their obligations. Their arrival at New York was received with demonstrations of delight. Carrying themselves with the ease and assurance which indicates the trained and experienced soldier, the citizens seemed to think that if the regular army was composed of such men the revolt would soon be crushed. The regular army was, but little had they considered the strength of that force or the magnitude of the military operations in which their country was to be involved. But this carries us to another period.



## WITH THE APACHE SCOUTS IN MEXICO.

BY CAPTAIN JAMES A. SHANNON, ELEVENTH CAVALRY.

THE Punitive Expedition entered Mexico to "catch Villa dead or alive," but from the beginning it was clear to many of the older officers that getting Villa himself would prove a very difficult operation; and, before the campaign had been on for many days it was clear to everybody that the attempts to catch Villa himself was, as one officer expressed it, "like trying to catch a coyote in Wyoming with a particular stripe down his back." If Villa would stand to fight with his band it would be easy. If his band broke up and he became a fugitive alone or with a small detachment it was an almost impossible task. There was, however, one chance of getting him. If his trail could be found, if one reliable person could be found who would say "here is where he went," and if some one could be put on that trail who had the ability to follow it, he might be caught. It was for this purpose that the Apache Indians were secured.

Once the idea had been suggested, it was carried into effect with the least possible delay. In fact the Indians did not all have time enough to get mounts before they left Fort Apache, and the detachment of twenty arrived at Columbus with only eleven horses. In spite of this effort to get them in promptly and of the further effort to get them to the front promptly by sending them 300 miles south by motor trucks, they were too late. By the time they arrived at San Antonio, the advance base 300 miles south of Columbus, the pursuit of Villa was over.

From what the officers have told me since that time, I believe if they had been with Colonel Howze's column during its dash to the Durango line, Villa might have been caught. It seems very probable that his column was very close to Villa at one time and that the presence of these trailers might have

enabled him to catch the arch bandit himself. From what I have learned about the Indians myself I haven't the slightest doubt that if they had been put on the trail they would have been able to follow it to the end. However they were too late, and this article is not an account of how near they came to catching Villa, but is a recital of some of the interesting and amusing things that have happened to these peculiar people since the pursuit of Villa was abandoned.

Early in April, it was learned that the Indians had been secured and were on their way. It became my duty to go back to meet them, see that they were properly equipped, and outfitted for service in Mexico, and bring them back to the front where they could be used in following Villa's trail.

I had never seen an Apache Indian, and my total knowledge concerning them consisted of certain statements I had heard to the effect that they could run all day long up and down hill and over the tops of the highest mountains, that they were very cruel and ruthless (from which came such names as the Apaches of New York and Paris) and that they could "trail anything that walked or swam or flew." As I rode toward the border on a truck train, I was forming in my imagination a picture of what I would see when I finally met my braves. I expected to find some tall, lean, eagle-eyed and eagle-beaked redskins, with little or nothing on except moccasins and a rifle belt, with probably a knife or tomahawk fastened on somewhere, sort of "Leather Stocking" heroes, silent and fierce.

I arrived at last and went at once to find the Indians. I found them—but not the people of my imagination. Instead, I found twenty short, stocky, pleasant mannered individuals, fully equipped in cavalry uniform from leggins to campaign hat. Their average height was about five feet six inches and some of them were decidedly too fat and didn't look at all as though they could run full speed over the tops of the Sierra Madres.

Moreover, although Captain Hazzard, their regular post commander, who had brought them to Columbus, had equipped them with everything necessary, before my arrival, I found the Indians had not received everything they wanted by any means, and I was soon getting them sweaters, dust-goggles,

electric flash lights and other luxuries. We started south again on the next truck train and soon they wanted boric acid for sore eyes, vaseline for sore lips and one old fellow, Sharley, wanted a mustard plaster for a sore back. I began to think my braves were not quite up to Cooper's heroes. I was too quick in my judgment, however, and through all my service



CHICKEN.

with them, I find that I have been slow to understand the Indians. Of course they asked for flash lights and mustard plasters if they thought they could get them, (just as a white man would) but they didn't need them and when thrown on their own resources could make a fire out of almost nothing and dig up enough medicine roots in a few minutes, almost

anywhere, to cure a whole family of anything that was the matter with them.

The Indians had brought eleven ponies to Columbus, and had not been given time to get more before leaving Fort Apache. These eleven had to be left at Columbus and the Indians were hurried south by truck train about 300 miles to the advanced base; but when they were given some Government horses and tried to go forward they were told that operations were suspended for the present and they would remain where they were. So they went into camp to await developments. At Columbus, I had drawn enough rations for the trip south. Having heard of the Indians' custom of eating up all the rations the first day and then going hungry until the next issue, I carefully doled out the day's supply each day and so made the rations last the required time. I found out on the trip south that they were adept at making camp under disadvantageous circumstances. As soon as the truck train stopped at camp they jumped out and the fire seemed to be started about the time they struck the ground, and a hot meal was ready a very few minutes later.

On the way south I had noticed them pointing here and there at the various mountain peaks. Some of them had been in Mexico years ago and they were evidently locating themselves according to their custom by observing the high peaks. The first thing of interest that happened after we got to San Antonio, was that the Indians began to get drunk. The first offender was an old-timer named Yet-Suey ("Hell"). He announced his possession of the fire-water by loud harsh yells and curses. The next day Loco Jim got some. A few days later several got drunk together and then it began to get pretty monotonous.

The Indian is a beast when he gets his liquor, and he has little less self-control than the white man, and is therefore more dangerous. The Apaches are as easy to control as a lot of children except when they get liquor. They are exactly like the inmates of the violent ward of an insane asylum when they are drunk. They then remember all the old unsettled scores of the last fifty years, and try to square things up. At that time it is good policy to take the bolts out of their rifles

and the magazines out of the pistols. On one occasion one of them got some mescal. After sitting around camp awhile, he got up quietly, turned his back and began loading his rifle. He had imagined some grievance against another scout sitting about twenty feet away, and decided to settle it then and there. He was caught and disarmed in time. After repeated warnings



CHOW BIG and NONOTOLTH.

and fatherly talks, six of them were finally put in the guard-house after one spree, for about two weeks. This was a terrible jolt to them and we had no further trouble.

The liquor trouble and the need of varying the monotony of sitting in camp, led us to start hunting. And here first I began to see the real pleasure of serving with the Apaches.

There were some drawbacks to being with them. Some of them were lazy, selfish and undisciplined, but once we got out in the mountains after game they were a perfect joy. They were always quiet, alert, sharp-eyed, and absolutely sure of their location and of the direction to camp or any other place they wanted to go to.

As hunters they were perfect. Like a finished horseman who controls his horse and makes him perform every movement without any apparent effort on the part of the rider, the Apaches trailed and found their game so quietly and with so little sign of doing anything unusual, that one might hunt with them for months before realizing that they were doing anything at all except ride quietly around. I knew that they found plenty of deer and that those deer almost always appeared in places where they could get several good shots before the deer could get away. I finally woke up to the fact, that, from the moment they saw the tracks of the deer, they began trailing their game; but in hunting deer, instead of following the tracks as I expected them to do, they worked on their knowledge of the habits of the animal to tell where it would go. They were not remarkably good shots, although two or three of them were excellent game shots up to about 200 yards; but in the art of finding their game and putting it at a disadvantage they were perfect.

I had an amusing illustration of how little they seemed to be doing while hunting. One day a friend of mine, and a good hunter, went out with the Indians. That day they brought back seven deer. Nothing looked easier. A few days later he went out with a detachment of soldiers from his own regiment to the same locality where he and the Indians had killed the seven deer. He came back and told me they had not seen a single deer. He confided to me that the high water had driven the deer up onto the higher mountains. I smiled, remembering how slow I had been to appreciate the Indians hunting ability. A few days later he went out again to the same locality with a detachment, but this time two of the Indians went along. The party brought back four deer this time. The amusing thing was that he did not seem to realize that the presence of the Indians had anything to do with the finding of the deer.

Our hunting trips often lasted three days and were a combined hunt and reconnaissance. Leaving camp about 6:00 A. M., with a couple of pack-mules to carry rations and forage, we would make fifteen or twenty miles before noon, and make camp on some cool mountain stream. A quick lunch and then the detachment would split up into several parties of three or four each, a small guard would be left in camp, and the hunting



BIG SHARLEY and JOHN CODY.

Two of the best hunters.

parties would spend the afternoon hunting, returning to camp about dark. The next morning at daylight, the hunting parties would again set out carrying a lunch and hunt all day returning to camp at night. The following morning we would return to the main camp. When camp life had gotten especially monotonous, one of these three day hunts would come like a life-saver. The all day hunts gave one a fine appetite. Bacon, corn beef, hardtack, anything tasted good. A few



hours away from the flies of a big camp was a relief in itself. And the hunts produced enough of excitement and of unusual situations to keep one interested. There is something about being in the mountains with the Indians that is fascinating and must appeal to any man. To get off twenty or thirty miles away from the command with a rifle in some wild part of the mountains with one or two Indians who could speak only a few words of English, would have a strong appeal for the wild man who is pretty near the surface in everybody. Hunting was a perfect drill for the scouts. It combined every element for their training or rather for keeping them in form. There was the trailing of the game, the alert watching for its appearance, the quick dismount and going into action when the game appeared, and then the firing at a moving target—every phase of the scouts' business. Had it not been for this we would not have hunted them at this season.

When the Indians shot a deer they immediately dressed it, and as the Mexican White Tail deer which they shot principally, is small, not weighing more than about 100 pounds, at this season, we packed them to camp behind our saddles. On returning to the main camp they always skinned the deer and tanned the hide. The hide was first put in water for about twenty-four hours, then taken out and the hair scraped off. It was then stretched to dry for several hours. Then the brain of the deer, which has been cooked by throwing the head into the fire, was scooped out, softened with water and with this the hide was rubbed and kneaded and pulled and stretched by hand for several hours. When it again became dry it was soft and white and thoroughly tanned. The Indians did a pretty good business selling these skins to officers at the various camps. Not the least attractive thing about the hunts was the addition to the ration that these trips provided. The deer were the most delicious eating one can imagine. They entirely lacked any strong gamey flavor. A piece of fried tenderloin could be cut with a fork like a sausage and the flavor was delicious.

The scouts had arrived too late for the dash after Villa and it looked as though they had missed the chance of seeing any action. About three weeks after their arrival, however, they had a chance. A band of the illusive Villistas had ap-



peared somewhere south of San Antonio, had scared some Carranzistas almost to death, and the latter fled for aid to the American camp.

A column of six troops, a machine gun troop and the scouts under command of Colonel R. L. Howze was started in the direction of the trouble at 8:30 P. M. The Indians acted as advance guard. Since the year one, probably the Indians had never acted as a regular advance guard to a military force. Also, they are not very strong for night operations. As a consequence it was pretty hard to make them understand what was wanted. They didn't seem to understand the idea of keeping strung out along the road with good distance between troopers, and a constant lookout to front and rear to avoid losing connection in the dark. However they managed to keep ahead of the command and form a sort of protection against surprise.

About midnight we ran across part of the Carranza outfit which had been driven out by the Villistas. As we approached this outfit and opened a conversation with them, Sergeant Chicken (First Sergeant of the Scouts) fingered his gun nervously and gave vent in one sentence to the Indians' whole idea of the Mexican situation: "Heap much Mexican, shoot 'em all!" There were no fine distinctions in their minds between friendly Mexicans and unfriendly, Carranzistas and Villistas, *de facto* troops and bandits. To their simple direct minds there was only one line of conduct—"Heap much Mexican, shoot 'em all!" They had to be watched pretty carefully when out of camp to be kept from putting this principle into practice. At midnight we met an American doctor accompanied by another doctor, part Mexican, who knew the country. They guided the command to the Mexican Ranch of Ojos Azules. About six o'clock in the morning we arrived at the ranch and effected a partial surprise of the band of Villistas we were looking for. The plan for the Indians, who were in the lead at this fight, was to pass around the ranch without waiting to fight, into some hills just beyond and take up a position to cut off the escape of the Mexicans. This was explained to them by the interpreter before we arrived at the ranch. As they started to circle the ranch at a gallop they came under the fire of the

bandits and immediately every one of them, true, I suppose, to a thousand years of training and to their natural instinct, dismounted and returned the fire. No persuasion or cussing could get them to come along. They stood their ground well and returned the fire, but the idea of being under fire and not returning it was evidently foreign to every fibre of their being.

The Indian cannot be beaten at his own game. But in order to get results, he must be allowed to play that game in his own way. You tell a troop of white soldiers there is an enemy a thousand yards in your front and they will go straight at him without question. The Indian under the same circumstance wants to look it all over first. He wants to go to one side and take a look. Then to the other side and take a look. He is like a wild animal stalking its prey. Before he advances he wants to know just what is in his front. This extreme caution, which we don't like to see in the white man, is one of the qualities that makes him a perfect scout. It would be almost impossible to surprise an outfit that had a detachment of Apache scouts in its front. They do not lack courage by any means. They have taken part in some little affairs in Mexico that required plenty of courage, but they must be allowed to do things in their own way.

After the troops came up, the scouts went on with them, and I believe accounted for several of the Villistas. Being unable to get the scouts to come along over the hills as at first planned, I joined "G" Troop, Eleventh Cavalry, and went on over into these same hills with them, but arrived too late to intercept the retreating Mexicans.

On return to the ranch two hours later, the scouts were all there, and each scout had one or two mules or ponies captured from the bandits; also, saddles, bridles, rifles, blankets, etc. Most of the animals had terrible sore backs, but after several weeks of careful treatment they all got well and made pretty fair mounts for the Indians.

We stayed within a few miles of Ojos Azules for a few days. During this time a large party of Carranzistas under a General Cravassos came into the ranch of Ojos Azules. Later, General Cravassos marched past our camp and we had a good look at him and his command. This was the most military looking body

of Mexicans I saw in Mexico. They were very well mounted, were marching in column of twos with intervals between troops, had a machine-gun on a pack mule, and although not uniformed, they presented a very orderly appearance.

About two nights later a message came in directing that we return to San Antonio, to arrive by daylight the next morning. We broke camp and marched as ordered, arriving at San Antonio the next morning. Stayed there that day, and marched north again the next night to San Diego del Monte, about 20 miles, and the next day to Lake Itascate where we went into camp. At this point the Indians were detached from the Eleventh Cavalry, and attached to the Fifth Cavalry, and for about three months served with the latter regiment, scouting or hunting almost continuously. Late in August they moved north to Colonia Dublan, where they again were attached to the Eleventh Cavalry, and where they have stayed until the present time.

It is seldom that a person who has a reputation for doing anything especially well can come fully up to expectations. The reputation is generally better than the reality. And that was what I expected to find about the trailing ability of the scouts. I expected it to be a sort of hit-or-miss affair. After seeing two or three demonstrations however, I am willing to state that I believe trailing is a science with the Apaches. There is no chance about it at all. Show them the trail and they will take you to the person or thing that made the trail.

The first example I saw of this was on June 1st. On that day the Fifth Cavalry made a march north, changing camp, and after the Apaches had scouted through a pass in advance of the regiment, in accordance with orders, they went up the valley a few miles to a Mexican ranch where, it was reported, there were some American horses. It was known that some officers had lost their horses and it was thought there might be a chance here to recover them.

Arrived at the ranch they quickly found the tracks of some American horses, evidently two or three days old. They started off on the trail and after going a short distance came to a rocky stretch where the trail was hard to follow. They circled out like a pack of hounds and soon one of them gave a

grunt and all the rest went over where he was and started off again. After a while the trail seemed to divide, so the detachment split up into two parties following the two trails. After about an hour or so, one of these parties overtook the Villistas in a very narrow ravine. They shot two of them, and on account of the narrowness of the pass, unfortunately shot two of the horses, one of which proved to be the private horse of Lieutenant Ely of the Fifth Cavalry. They recovered one government horse and got some Mexican saddles, rifles, etc.

A better example of their trailing ability occurred about a month later. We were then in a big camp and it was the custom to send out each day two patrols to the south to keep a lookout for our friends the Carranzistas. One day the Indians were sent out in place of one of these patrols. They started south along a trail which followed a narrow river bed. The trail crossed this river about fifty times in half as many miles. About ten miles from camp the scouts, who were always watching the ground, saw the tracks of an American horse going south, and soon they announced that there was a Mexican mule with this horse. They said they thought an American soldier had deserted and was going to join the Mexicans and had hired a Mexican to show him the way.

After a few miles the trail left the river bed and led across the hills, still going south. They followed it fast, about five miles an hour I should say. If they got at fault they would look the ground over, evidently pick out the place where they thought the trail must go, one of them would dash off at a gallop, and soon they would all be off on the trail again.

After going about fifteen miles they finally came to a place where a lot of big range horses had been grazing, and the ground was covered with tracks. Here they lost the trail completely for perhaps fifteen minutes. They circled out widely and finally one man whistled and waved his arm, and when the rest rode up he pointed down in a little narrow wash, and sure enough there were the American horse and the Mexican mule tied to trees. All approached cautiously and called out "hands-up!" No reply. So they went down into the ravine found saddles and bridles, etc., and foot-tracks leading out which they followed.

In a few hundred yards they had followed these tracks into a big pile of rocks, and in answer to their challenge out came a tall American with his hands up. He was one of General Dodd's guides who had been sent off by the General on a secret mission with a reliable Mexican, to ride at night and sleep during the day. They had been hiding when they saw the Indians and thought they were surrounded by Mexicans. Everybody had a good laugh and they came back with us.

The best trailing the Indians did in Mexico, however, was a two-day chase after some deserters which occurred early in August. Any lingering doubts I may have had as to their ability, were entirely dispelled by this exhibition. Early one day the Adjutant sent word to the Apaches that some deserters had left camp the night before, and that the commanding officer wanted to see if the Indians could find them.

It was ascertained after some inquiry that three men had left. All were well-mounted and they had taken three rifles and five pistols. They had left camp about ten o'clock the night before, but nobody knew anything about where they had gone, or whether they were attempting to get to the states or to join the Mexicans.

The camp was located in a valley about ten miles wide running north and south, and bounded east and west by mountain ranges. Four scouts spent the morning going across this valley from east to west, north of camp, and returned to camp at 10 o'clock stating that the deserters had not gone north. After dinner they started out again to cross the valley south of camp. About 3 o'clock they found a trail leading east, and after following it a short distance they announced definitely that this was the trail made by the deserters, that there were three of them, that the trail had been made at night and that the horses were traveling fast. To prove that the trail had been made at night, they pointed to a prairie dog mound into which one of the horses had stumbled, and a little distance further along, a piece of sharp cactus broken off evidently by one of the horses. It was plain enough after they had pointed it out.

Some soldiers were working not far away, building a target range under charge of Lieutenant Whitside, Fifth Cavalry,

and a request for two of these men to assist in the chase was promptly granted. These soldiers had to return to camp for their rifles but joined the scouts a few hours later, with Lieutenant Whitside, in the next valley to the east. The scouts had meanwhile been following the trail which presently led into a well beaten road leading to the east. This road had been traveled since the deserters had been over it, by an entire troop of cavalry, going the same direction, it was impossible to follow the tracks of the deserters' horses. But by riding along the sides of the road, a few yards out, the scouts were able to make sure that no one had left the road and gone off to one side. After traveling about ten miles we came to the next valley to the east, where a troop of cavalry was kept as an outpost to the main camp. The Indians picked up the trail in this valley before dark, Lieutenant Whitside and his two men joined us and we spent the night with this troop.

At sun-up the next morning the Indians took up the trail where they had found it the night before. It still led east and about ten miles farther on another low mountain range was crossed and we passed into another valley. No play and no story could have been more fascinating than it was to watch the work of the Indians this day. It was a chapter out of Cooper's "Deerslayer." The country was wild and barren a few cattle here and there were the only signs of life. Not a sign of a house or of a human being. The Indians were following the trail fast, about five miles an hour. There was no noise, no talking and never for a moment were they twenty feet away from the trail made by the deserters horses.

Early in the day we found we were following a thirsty crowd. At every water course we came to we saw evidences of this. There was little water in the country, but we would find where the deserters had followed the water courses looking for the little pools that could sometimes be found, and occasionally we would find where they had dug in the creek bed for water. Some empty bottles we had passed just after leaving the main camp the day before, gave us an inkling of one reason for this thirst. Also it was a hot day.

About noon we came to a big pond and here we found the place where the deserters had camped the night before. If it



had been interesting watching the Indians on the trail, it was more interesting watching them at this camp. They went first to the fire. It was still warm and that showed them the camp had been abandoned not long before. In the fire they found the buckles of a soldier's cartridge-belt suspenders. That definitely proved that we were following soldiers if any proof were necessary. They found a piece of Government halter, a soldier's light wool sock, and the tracks of his bare feet as he went to take a bath. Everything they looked at meant something to them. They saw everything and they drew correct deductions from all that they saw.

At this camping place I got a clear proof of the fact that, to the Indians, trailing is a science and not a matter of guess work. As we approached this camp we saw at a distance going to the south down the valley what appeared to be two or three mounted men. Whitside, who had a good pair of field-glasses, looked carefully and decided they were the party we were after. They were going south. While looking around the camp, Sergeant Chicken found the trail leading north. He was told that the officer with the field glasses thought he had seen them going south. He listened patiently and then said as though he had been stating some simple self-evident fact, "No, they gone north." So we went north!

The trail was fresher now and the scouts followed faster, their little Mexican mules galloping much of the time. The Indians were intent, alert, but wary like a wild animal approaching its prey, occasionally slowing up and looking the country over. We went on this way probably an hour and a half. Then Sergeant Chicken pulled up, looked the country over and said, "We see 'em about five minutes." We were at this time following along the bank of a deep wash. In about five minutes we came where a widening in this wash gave us a view down into it. There we saw the deserters probably 1,200 yards away, standing by their horses.

As they saw us they mounted and fled at top speed. The next few minutes formed a fitting end to the days sport. The Indians on their little mules fell away behind. Whitside riding a splendid little thoroughbred mare, shot to the front and after a run of about three miles overhauled and disarmed

the two hindmost of the deserters. The other was better mounted and went on about a mile further but was finally brought in without much trouble; and when we got them together the Indians had come up and were standing around quietly, smiling good-naturedly and saying nothing.

The certainty with which the scouts decided on the trail as soon as they found it, their certainty at the pond that the trail going north was the trail we were following in spite of the evidence of field-glasses, and Sergeant Chicken's final remark that we would see them in five minutes. When at the moment he couldn't possibly see them, convinced me of their absolute reliability as trailers. We got back to our camp of the night before about 8 o'clock P. M., and the next day turned the prisoners in to the guard.

I wish I could tell all the interesting and amusing things that have happened with these Indians but it would take too long.

There are several interesting characters among them. Old Hell Yet-Suey, the first man to get drunk, is quite a character. He is the real hereditary chief of the White Mountain Apache so far as one can be said to exist. He has the most villainous look imaginable. His face is almost black, his eyes are bloodshot, and the lower lids hang down. He wears his black hair long and shows his teeth. When this old scoundrel put on his dust glasses and approached a Mexican prisoner to look him over, the latter died of fright. He was also quite a craftsman. He could make very pretty watch-fobs and hat-bands of braided hair. He made General Dodd a very good looking pair of silver stars out of Mexican coins. He was also a great master of the dance and knew all the frills that go to make an Apache ghost dance complete. He loved to have his picture taken. He had captured a belt from a Villista, and when he was about to be photographed he would roll up his sleeves, push back his hat, hang this belt across his shoulders, then kneel on one knee with one hand grasping his rifle and the other his trusty automatic. He was certainly a fierce sight. The only trouble was that the temperature near his feet was always below zero when there was anything to be done.



Charley Shipp is a short, stocky, little man who talks the best English of any of the scouts in this detachment. At home he is a tribal judge. He is round faced, smiling and good natured. In spite of his judicial dignity Charlie had to go to the guard house once.

Skitty Joe Pitt is a great joker and a pretty good hunter and a good cook.

First Sergeant Chicken is probably, all things considered, the most valuable man in the detachment. He is finishing his seventh enlistment period. He speaks pretty fair English, is an excellent trailer and scout, and an absolutely reliable man.

Sergeant Chow Big and his brother Corporal Nonotolth are probably the two best hunters and two of the best men in every way. Nonotolth is a handsome Indian with a strong face and a strong character. He is the nearest like a white man in his characteristics of any of the Indians in the detachment.

Big Sharley and B-25 were with Crawford in Mexico thirty years ago and the latter carries an ugly scar on his jaw received from a Mexican bullet.

Nakay (Y-5) is the oldest man in the party (sixty-three), but he is able to keep up as well as the younger ones. He and one or two others still wear long hair.

Loco Jim is one of the friendliest of the outfit. He was a great man in his day, and his body is covered with scars obtained in early encounters. He has lost much of his strength and cunning and was not quite equal to the hardships of the trip.

The Indians had some interesting customs. They have a way of their own of taking a hot bath. They build a little frame of bushes or branches of trees about four feet high and four feet in diameter on the bank of a stream. They cover this with blankets until they make an enclosure that is almost airtight. Then they heat several large stones, put them inside, and pour a little water on them. Then as many Indians as possible crowd into this sweat box, wearing only a gee string. Here they sit for about ten minutes until an ordinary man would be suffocated. Then they begin to sing the bath song. This is a kind of weird chant and lasts perhaps ten minutes more, when with loud yells they all dash out dripping with perspira-

tion and jump into the stream. After cooling off this way, back they go into the wickup and repeat the whole thing, song, cold plunge and all.

The general opinion seems to be that the Indian is a dirty man in his habits, but after seeing them take a few of these baths, one is convinced that these scouts are as clean as anybody in camp. They are also very careful as to their camp sanitation.

Another curious custom they have is that of holding a sort of song service every little while. After dark they all gather around in a small circle and after sitting quietly for a little while, one man exhorts them in a few words and then starts a song. He sings the verse and all join in the chorus. The soloist has a hard time of it, for the song is very guttural and a terrible strain on his throat and head. This song service sometimes lasts several hours, all getting more and more excited as they go on until they wind up with a wild yell. It is a religious service, invoking the aid of the Great Spirit to protect and assist them in times of danger and sickness. The soloist is generally fit for sick report the next day.

A large part of the duty of the officer in charge of these braves consists of writing letters home for them and reading the letters they receive from home. None of them can read or write. There is no modesty about this letter business. All gather around and listen while a letter is being dictated, and also while one from home is being read. It will not be indelicate to give a few extracts: This is a man writing home to his wife: "Some scouts got letter saying you crying all the time since I left home. Stop that crying. Don't let anybody borrow my wagon or steal my horse. Get some of your family to cut my corn and brand my calves. See that my children get plenty to eat. I be home pretty soon. Thats all. Goodbye."

This is a letter to a scout from a friend back at Apache: "Everything just the same here at Apache. Everybody well. Your wife made some toodlepie and got arrested the other day. B-25's two wives are fighting over the money he sends home. His wife, B-17, spent too much money and his wife B-23 got mad about it. Y-2 has a baby. It looks just like Y-2. Send me a silk shirt from Mexico. Good-bye." Toodlepie is a

very intoxicating drink made by the Indians themselves. The Indians are devoted to their families, especially their children, and send home many presents and a large part of their pay.

I believe the Indians' military value is and always will be as guides, scouts, or trailers, wherever such persons are needed. I don't believe they could be made into soldiers—reliable, disciplined, fighters in a hundred years. It is a mistake to use them in any set military formation such as advance guard, flank guard, etc., and expect them to do it like a trained soldier.

On the other hand, as guides they have a sense of direction and locality that is uncanny. One soon gets to learn that they locate and orient themselves by the high mountain peaks. But that is far from the whole thing. I remember a little doctor who had been out west for awhile, who told me he had found the secret of the cowboy's ability to ride a bucking horse. I was very anxious to know the secret so he told me there was not much to it—they *just did it by balance*. That is about as near as the ordinary man comes to possessing the Indians sense of direction and locality. How it is that they always know the exact direction they want to go. How they know which side of the mountain will be the easiest to go around, how they always know just where they are, I have never found out.

As scouts, away out in front of the advance guard, under command of some one who understands them, they would be invaluable. Surprise would be practically impossible. They see everything and they know the meaning of what they see. I have already described some of their feats as trailers.

Service with the Indians has been intensively interesting and I have grown very fond of them. They have a sort of childlike trust in the officer who is in charge of them that is remarkable. What he says is *so*. They are very undemonstrative, but when, one in a long time, they say in very broken English, "You got good heart, we all same brothers," you can't help having a mighty friendly feeling for them.

## Mounted Service Section

### A METHOD OF PURCHASING HORSES.

Being comments on Major Clyde E. Hawkin's article in the January JOURNAL.

BY THE FORT RENO REMOUNT OFFICE.\*

AFTER an experience which involved the purchase of some 8,000 horses and mules during a period of ninety days, the method detailed by Major Hawkins in the January issue of the JOURNAL appeals to this office as decidedly complicated and as failing to give the maximum of efficiency with the minimum of expense. Beginning July 1st, this office was given the handling of three contracts covering 10,000 animals in two cities several hundred miles apart. There were but two officers to do this work and it was to be performed, presumably, without interference with their duties in connection with the remount depot. The number of animals involved in these contracts should give all the necessary experience to any officer as to methods for purchasing this class of animals. Any inspector who had not learned something of value in this connection after purchasing 8,000 animals, would hardly learn by purchasing more.

The method detailed by Major Hawkins is largely based on the present complicated paper system with which our service is cursed, and a careful analysis of it will show that the time of the board, or commission, is given rather to the careful preparation of certain papers, wholly unnecessary, than to in-

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\*Contributed through the M. S. S. Section of the CAVALRY JOURNAL.

specting animals. Chief among these useless papers is the Descriptive List of Public Animals. This paper probably will shortly become obsolete, at least in so far as purchasing officers are concerned, as it has been recommended abolished by various boards on amendments to Army Regulations.

Two methods of purchasing were experimented with during the past summer. The first was by a board almost identical with that described by Major Hawkins in the first paragraph of his article. Later, commissions were organized, each covering one horse contract and one covering two mule contracts. These commissions were employed with the idea that greater speed would be obtained in filling the contracts. It will be shown later in this paper that the efficiency of the original board exceeded that of the commissions, both as to speed and economy.

Taking Major Hawkin's article in detail we find that the capacity of the board first described is stated as seventy-five animals per day. With a board that has become accustomed to working together, even with the pernicious descriptive list still with us, this number could very well be doubled. See table given later in this article.

Next we find that it is contemplated to *weigh* the animals. Why weigh? Of what importance is the exact weight of the animal at the time of purchase? He will probably weigh from 50 to 75 pounds less than this when he has arrived at his destination after a trip of several days and he will in all probability exceed this weight from 50 to 100 pounds six months later under the conditions of ordinary garrison duty. Now any inspector who cannot estimate well within these limits simply by observation is lacking in the "horse sense" cited by Major Hawkins as an essential qualification of an inspector. What, after all, has the weight of the animal to do with his suitability? The question is, has he the frame and conformation to carry in good condition a certain recognized weight which is consistent with his work? This feature the eye of the inspector should be able to estimate, as well as he judges the animal's suitability in other respects. No time should be lost on such useless details as weighing.

Next, a sort of double inspection is described. *Why?* Largely in order to insure an accurate descriptive list. But even with the D—L, why double the work? The animal when presented is either suitable or he is not. He is either sound or he is not. While the inspector and his veterinarian are determining these points, the clerk can be preparing the D—L so far as distinctive marks are concerned. It need not be completed until the wind test has been made, but if it should be completed and the animal finally rejected, it is a simple matter to destroy the D—L and transfer its number to another descriptive list.

These are a few of the points which strike us at once as faulty in the method described. In general it is desired to call attention to the following main features in Major Hawkin's method with which this depot does not agree, to outline a method which we consider better, and finally to give the reasons for our support of the latter method.

*Defects of system described:*

1. It contemplates that the present D—L of public animals must continue to be a function of an inspecting board.
2. That the hoof brand must be depended on as a means of identification from point of purchase to destination of animal.
3. That a combination of letters and figures make the best hoof brand.
4. That an examining board must consist of not less than eight members to satisfactorily accept and ship from 150 to 250 animals per day, preferably the smaller number, during an eight hour day.
5. That, in general, the yards of the contractor, which usually mean public stock yards, are the best place to conduct inspections.
6. That no real control of the feeding, care, etc., of the animals intended for the service can be had prior to the inspection and while in the hands of the contractor.
7. Does not render fraud difficult so far as substitution of animals is concerned.

Consideration of the present D—L as a function of the inspecting officer or remount depot may be dismissed. The fallacy of the hoof brand as a means of identification has been amply proven by the experiences of the past summer. Ask the auxiliary remount depots on the border. Ask officers who took part in the Punitive Expedition. Ask some of the officers of the Inspector General's Department who tried to identify animals presented for condemnation. As for a combination of letters and numbers as a hoof brand, this point was pretty thoroughly covered in the July issue of the *JOURNAL*, in an article commenting on Mr. Trowbridge's "Identification of Public Animals." The other points will be covered in discussing the following scheme which we believe should, in general be followed where the inspection of large numbers of animals is contemplated:

1. Animals should be inspected at Government controlled yards.
2. The present D—L should be abolished as a function of the inspecting officer.
3. The hoof brand should be replaced by a body brand.
4. An inspecting board of more than three members (the inspector, veterinarian, and clerk), aside from the branders, involves more labor without corresponding results. It decreases efficiency.
6. The Government can insist on preliminary supervision of the feeding and care of animals prior to presentation for inspection.

Considering the first point, it should be borne in mind that the emergency calling for a large number of animals will be sufficiently outlined to indicate where the mobilization of troops is to take place, and thus where the most advantageous locations for field remount depots will be. With this knowledge, the remount service should be arranged to establish receiving points. These should be located convenient both to the horse markets and the transportation lines which will be utilized in carrying accepted animals to field depots. Except in civil strife, these mobilization points are not difficult to guess. It will be one of our four borders. The plans for receiving depots



and auxiliary depots, rest stations, etc., should be prepared *now* and on file in the O. Q. M. G. or whatever department is to have charge of the remount service. When the emergency arises, they should be put in the hands of the officers detailed for this service together with the necessary funds for their construction. Where large numbers of animals are required, it means the expenditure of immense sums of money. To insure the greatest value for the money and to fortify against loss, the government should utilize a part of the appropriation for the purchase of public animals to construct proper receiving, inspecting, and shipping yards. The experiences of the past summer show that this will pay in the long run and the long run is what counts. All premises where animals are received and inspected should be *absolutely under the control of our own inspectors and veterinarians*. The same is true of the stock cars and in fact everything pertaining to the sanitation of the remount machinery.

Let us consider what our experience of the past summer cost us in losses due to preventable causes. Roughly speaking, our contracts called for an expenditure of approximately ten millions for both horses and mules. Of this amount, the total loss in animals after acceptance, due to shipping diseases and causes incident to delivery to depots and troops in the field, is not certainly known. No figures are at hand on which to base an accurate estimate, but it has probably amounted to several hundred thousand dollars even at a conservative estimate. Suppose a half of the money loss had been invested in constructing and maintaining Government controlled yards and by so doing one-half of the remaining half of the loss in animals had been saved to the Government, the item would have been considerable.

To use a concrete example, let us assume that \$100,000 had been set aside for use in constructing yards, or fifty per cent of the assumed total loss due to yard and shipping disease. Awards were given as follows in the last call for animals:

Front Royal.....	1,000 head.
Central Department:	
K. C. and St. Louis.....	26,333
Wichita.....	6,985
Oklahoma City.....	8,300=41,618 head.

## Southern Department:

Ft. Sam Houston and Ft. Worth.....13,825 head.

## Western Department:

San Francisco.....	735
Seattle.....	100
Los Angeles.....	1,900
Ft. Keogh.....	75= 2,810 head.

This involves eleven purchasing points:

Montgomery, Ala., St. Louis, Mo., Kansas City, Mo.,  
Wichita, Kans., Oklahoma City, Okla., Fort Worth, Texas,  
San Antonio, Texas, Los Angeles, Cal., Seattle, Wash., Miles  
City, Mont.

Suppose San Francisco and Seattle had been combined, or Miles City and Seattle, making ten purchasing points. Allowing evenly \$10,000 for each point, which would not be necessary where the smaller number of animals was to be inspected, or pro rating the \$100,000 on the basis of the number of animals to be delivered at each point, very satisfactory yards could have been erected, maintained and equipped under Government control for the period of three months, during which the greater part of the purchasing was conducted.

Make it a part of the specifications that bids must be made with a view to shipping to the remount yards; that the animals being assembled for inspection must be vaccinated on their home grounds when purchased by the contractors agents, even going to the extent of supplying the vaccine free. Give the Government the right to control in some measure the shipments so that shipments can be made when weather is most favorable. In other words, do not let the emergency stampede the system. It is better to deliver well, non-infected horses and mules to the troops than sick, infected animals. The latter are not only useless, but carriers of disease to the sound stock in the hands of the organizations, who, with an emergency already on their hands, have no time to fight epidemics. The most serious time in the new animal's career is the short period of a few days between the contractor's purchasing agent and the inspector. This is the time that infection gets in its work to show up later on in a thoroughly unserviceable animal, either

temporarily or for good. Arrived at the crowded stock yards, the animal passes through the period of incubation of his particular infection, to come down with the disease just before shipment or on arrival at his destination, provided he does not come down on the contractor's hands and is in no condition to be shown. This latter class is the one that infects the premises and makes the public stock yards a veritable incubator of all forms of infection which rapidly develop complications far more serious than the original disease.

Major Hawkins states that any inspecting point would shortly assume the same condition as the public stock yards. This is not correct. It will, of course, if it is allowed to. But it must be considered that public stock yards are always in the large centers where property is high, and rent and taxes enormous. No dealer in horses and mules could afford to own or rent sufficient ground to give the number of animals he ordinarily handles the requisite space to insure sanitation. His stock of animals must be crowded into the smallest space possible. Some of these dealers have pastures outside the cities where their yards are located, but these also have to be limited due to the high value of the land. Furthermore, the contractor's yards are not filled simply when he is working under a Government contract, but constantly filled with a constantly changing stock of animals which he keeps on his hands the minimum time. All these animals carry their share of infection, and when it is considered that this has been going on for years, the condition is obvious.

The Government need not confine itself to small space or high priced ground. It already possesses many large tracts of public ground and reservations which might be utilized. Take the remount depots. They are already equipped and have a permanent personnel which would be invaluable for handling large contracts. As an example consider Reno in connection with the contracts in Oklahoma City, only thirty miles distant. Last July, due to high water, the contractors were cut off from their pastures for weeks. Animals were crowded into the stock yards in a pitiable manner. The weather was exceedingly hot and the stench from the overcrowded stables and pens was nauseating. At one time there

were 5,000 animals in the pens of W. T. Hales' alone, and the animals stood in the stables dripping with sweat induced by the crowding and the excessively hot weather.

Thirty miles away at Ft. Reno, were 8,000 acres of excellent pasture, fenced off into twenty pastures with communicating lanes and gates; there were some twenty men of the permanent personnel whose business it is to handle the depot stock; there were unloading pens, cutting pens, and any other equipment that might have been essential could readily have been erected at practically no cost. Both contractors remarked on this circumstance and both would have been only too willing to have changed their delivery to Ft. Reno instead of Oklahoma City. To say that this reservation would soon have assumed the same condition as the stock yards is nonsense. Officers could have begun their inspection at 7:00 A. M., and worked till dark without inconvenience, allowing an hour for lunch.

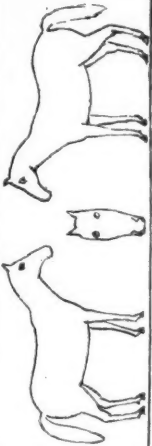




We have not so far considered a recommendation made by this depot relative to the establishment along the lines of supply from the purchasing point to the field depots, rest stations, which could be feeding stations, under remount control. By the utilization of the present remount depots as above suggested, a good part of the amount of the \$100,000 previously assumed, could be saved. Very little expenditure would be required to convert these depots into inspecting yards. Traveling expense of boards would be saved, as the personnel would be quartered at the depot and could go to their work daily at as early an hour as circumstances demanded, and continue till the day's shipment was actually made, without inconvenience. If this saving were put into Government controlled stations for unloading, feeding, etc., our losses en route would be further reduced. These halfway stations could carefully inspect each shipment and relay to the field depots only those animals that were in good shipping condition, holding up for rest and treatment those that showed sickness or exhaustion. Thus there would be removed from the flow of animals to the field depots temporarily sick and exhausted animals, but would save these to the service for later use, where under present methods many of them are lost. The creation of more remount depots and sub-depots for permanent

use in peace times, and there is no doubt that these depots should be increased if we mean to make the system of practical value, would give us permanent, well-equipped relay and inspection yards without waiting for the emergency to arise, as it will, if we become engaged with a foreign power.

To return to the details of inspection. It may be argued that if we do away with the permanent D—L, what is the inspector going to do to keep track of his animals? In the first place there is no occasion, as will be shown, for the inspector to be obliged to keep track of his animals after the day's shipment is made. Those animals are gone, off his hands. They were so many cavalry, artillery, or infantry horses, or so many wheel, lead, or pack mules. They were so branded and that should be the end of it for the inspector. But he does need a temporary method of identification to check his acceptances and his shipment. A duplicating record book, or pad, which would fulfill the conditions of Major Hawkins' floor clerk's memorandum is shown in the accompanying sketch. One copy is kept by the inspector and the duplicate sent with the shipment to the field remount depot to which the animals are consigned. This will be the only record kept, and this only until the shipment is receipted for or checked back. The inspector may preserve his copy if he chooses, for his own information, but it is his own to dispose of as he pleases and it has served his purpose when the shipment has arrived at its first destination.

There are few distinguishing marks necessary on the average horse that need recording for temporary identification. A brand, the shape of a star or stripe, a scar, something will always be found that will readily identify the animal to the inspector on a recheck. The figure or outline of the horse gives plenty of space for this purpose when taken in connection with the age, height, color and classification of the animal. Major Hawkins' estimate of the number of men needed is based largely on the desire to keep the D—L of the horse and the office records together. In other words, fifty per cent of the inspection is subordinated to paper work, energy that might very well be applied to the real business in hand, which we conceive to be the selection of suitable animals with the least pos-

sible loss of time. If the present D—L of animals is to be retained at all, let it be only within the organizations. Given sufficient time, anyone can make a D—L of an animal insofar

U. S. Army Remount Service.		Purchased under contract dated _____ 19____ with _____ (contractor) _____ (place) by _____ (inspecting officer) _____ date _____ (of inspection) _____			Cost.	
Brand of _____ Contractor. _____					Cavalry.....	
					Artillery.....	
					Wheel.....	
					Lead.....	
					Pack.....	
Number.	Kind.	Age.	Color.	Height.	Description.	
						
						
						
						
						

(Above figure in each of these spaces.)

(Continue until there are ten of these spaces.)

as his height, age (up to nine years), weight sex, color, and peculiar markings are concerned. If we still believe the name of the purchasing officer, the contractor from whom pur-

chased, the date of purchase, the age at purchase, and the place thereof is necessary to a proper accounting for the animal, then why not brand this data on him so that if his card should be lost, anyone familiar with the system can determine all this for a D—L which they may wish to prepare for local identification.

To replace the nerve-wrecking, soul-destroying hoof brand the following is suggested. We have tried it and with good results. At the inspections have metal mane tags of different colors with serial numbers. These are designed solely for the benefit of the inspector, his clerk, and, in a measure to assist the receiving officer at the field depot to classify, though classification should be branded on the haunch. Discontinue the use of the hoof brand entirely. There are any number of horses running loose at this depot for the past six or eight months with their mane tags still intact. That is more than can be said for a hoof brand, which is always a source of trouble, taking up precious time at issuing points in trying to decipher the correct number.

Depend entirely on body brands in connection with mane tags to identify animals. With the "U. S." incorporate the age at purchase and the year purchased. On the left haunch, where it is visible in a herd, put the classification brand. All the contractors this depot has dealt with make use of particular brands which they call "war brands" to identify their own animals, and which particular buyer sent it to the yards. Take advantage of this and require the contractors to use specific brands which will become the identifying mark of that contractor. This could very easily be done by requiring bidders to submit with their bids or in advance of their bids in separate envelope the brand which they propose to use. These could be compared and where two brands were likely to be confused, have them modified so as to render error impossible. The contractors could be required to place this brand wherever the Government officials desired. This brand then gives the information found on the descriptive card under "from whom purchased."

Now the only information the animal does not carry on his hide is who inspected him and his cost. Are these necessary?



If we believe that they are it is a perfectly simple thing to cover with a brand. All that is necessary is to give the inspector a symbol in the form of a small brand which is applied to every animal he purchases. Then publish to the service the brands of the inspectors and contractors with the prices for the various classes of animals, just as we now publish from time to time the prices of uniform clothing, ordnance stores, etc. Anyone who wants to spend time in making a descriptive card can now do so simply by looking at the animal and consulting the order publishing prices and brands.

The descriptive card of public animals now calls for the following which nature has put on the animal: age, sex, weight, color, and height; for the following which does not seem necessary: kind, breeding, sire, dam, name, bred by, foaled; and for the following which would have to be put on him: kind, age, when purchased, date purchased, where, by whom, from whom, cost, and how (by contract or open market). The kind we cover by a hair brand on the haunch, "C," "A," etc. These brands were finally ordered used by the Department Quartermaster, Southern Department, toward the end of the season of 1916. The actual calendar date of purchase does not seem so vital. The age at purchase for convenience of record might be considered necessary. Suppose we combine the two and group a brand with the "U. S." thus:

U. S.  
6 — 17

indicating the animal belongs to the Government and was six years old when purchased in 1917.

The contractors brand gives us the "where," "from whom" and "cost," simply by referring to the published list previously referred to. Under the mane would seem to be a good place for this and for the inspectors brand arranged thus:  $\triangle$   $\odot$ . The double circle would show that W. T. Hales of Oklahoma City is the contractor who put in small cavalry at \$138.00, specification cavalry at \$159.00, specification artillery at \$180.07; small artillery at \$170.00; wheel mules at \$225.00; lead mules at \$184.00; pack mules at \$150.00. The triangle shows that Captain Blank was the inspecting officer.

The only omissions now are those which appear to be unnecessary. In the course of accepting nearly 1,000 animals, only four or five appeared with a pedigree and these were uncertain. Such cases could easily be covered by making out a special card for such animal or follow the shipment with a letter drawing the receiving officer's attention to him.

The only record needed at the point of inspection is the memorandum mentioned by Major Hawkins and this only for local purposes. The inspector from time to time wants to know how many animals he has accepted so as to figure on car-load lots. The animals may break loose after branding and it becomes necessary to check the number and identify those returned as the ones accepted. For the convenience of the receiving officer at the field station some description may be wanted. After that the animals should be issued to troops as so many of each class, not as R289, or K.C.741. If the organization desires to make a descriptive list of each animal, they have the data on his hide to do so.

The duplicating record book (see Sketch "B"), six by ten inches, should serve all the purposes of a record at the inspecting point. The duplicate to be sent forward with the shipment, and the original retained till a sufficient time has passed, to close the accounts of the inspector and to answer any inquiry that may have been made by the field depot.

As to proper composition of the inspecting board. It is believed that the board first referred to by Major Hawkins, viz.: One officer, one veterinarian, one clerk, and one messenger, is correct. However, the experience of this depot has been that such a board should be able to inspect and accept an average of 150 animals per day. A larger board merely multiplies labor without increasing results. The following tables show the net labor and results of two different systems employed by this depot during the past summer:

One officer and one veterinarian were engaged in inspecting from May 21st to July 1st, working with three contractors, two in Oklahoma City and one in Ft. Worth. The results follow:

Number engaged.....	2
Period May 21st to July 1st.....	41 days
Number of inspections.....	23
Animals accepted and shipped.....	2,361
Average per day for period, 41 days.....	57.5 head
Average per day for 23 working days.....	102.6 head
Percentage of days occupied.....	56%
Man power for 41 days.....	28.7 horses
Man power for 23 days.....	51.3 horses
Maximum for any one day.....	150 head
Minimum for any one day.....	56 head

The inspections were begun about 9:00 A. M., and stopped about 4:30 or 5:00 P. M., taking out from an hour to an hour and a half for lunch. During these inspections the descriptive cards were prepared by the inspecting officer, the peculiar marks of the animals, etc., entered with indelible pencil, the name of the inspecting officer, contractor, place, date, price, and kind being filled in with rubber stamp prior to the inspection.

Commencing July 6th, two officers and four commissions of four men each were engaged working with three contractors as above until September 4th. The result is shown below:

Number engaged.....	18
Period July 6th to September 4th.....	61 days
Number of final inspections.....	38

Animals accepted and shipped:

Horses.....	5,352
Mules.....	2,302=7,654 head
Average per day for 61 days.....	125.4
Average per day for 38 working days.....	201.4
Percentage of days occupied.....	62%
Man power for 61 days.....	6.9 animals
Man power for 38 days.....	11.1 animals
Maximum any one day.....	472 animals
Minimum any one day.....	44 animals

In the latter case the percentage of time occupied represents that for the final inspection only. In handling this system, each of three commissions was assigned to a particular con-

tractor and one to work with two contractors on mules. These commissions would make preliminary inspections, and when sufficient animals were ready the inspecting officers would give the final inspection. There were thus but very few days out of the total of sixty-one that each commission was not working.

Major Hawkins' method calls for a board of eight members by which from 150 to 250 animals can be accepted and shipped per day, preferably the smaller number. He submits the following steps to accomplish this result:

- (a) Inspect and weigh, and when a sufficient number pass.
- (b) Wind and work, following this the animal would be
- (c) Checked,
- (d) Branded,
- (e) Descriptive lists made,
- (f) Shipped.

This appears to be a duplication of work. Why weigh? Why check before any description is made, if description is to be made later? A temporary description is intimated as being made before coming to (c) on page 314 under duties of floor clerk. This is certainly duplicating work. If a memorandum description is made, then why not the permanent description? This permanent record is provided for by a second clerk on page 316. He is at the branding chute. Also there is a third clerk at the branding chute to see that the number on the foot, the mane tag, and the card agree, and the brand "U. S." put on properly. This increases labor and puts too many men around the branding chute. The fewer here, the better. The reason is advanced later for not making the permanent record on the floor (page 332) that the floor clerk has not the time to properly and accurately fill in the card, that the cards get soiled and that the inspector has no other record than the memorandum book kept by the floor clerk. Now, this added labor is directly chargeable to our present D—L and the desire to keep it straight. As a matter of fact the number of errors is directly proportionate to the number of persons engaged.

After carefully considering the question of inspecting and purchasing animals under contract, and as a result of the ex-

periences of the past summer, this office has outlined a method which it believes meets the requirements with the least expense and waste of time. In the first place, a plan for an inspecting alley, including the assembling of the animals prior to inspection, in connection with lane for gaiting and winding, branding chute, accept and reject pens, so arranged and concentrated as to be under the eye of the inspector at all times, is essential.

Such a plan is submitted marked "A," and involves the following personnel:

One inspector	}	Furnished by the Government.
One veterinarian.		
One clerk.		
Three branders, enlisted or civilian.		
Three horse holders or leaders.	}	Furnished by the contractor.
Two riders.		
One horseshoer.		

The scheme for inspecting would be to have the horse brought in from the point "A" to "B." Here the inspector and the veterinarian make their preliminary inspection for conformation, unsoundness, age, etc. The horseholder then walks the animal away for about twenty-five yards in the alley "C," trots him back, and if desired, backs him or moves him as directed by the inspector. While this is going on, the clerk is making the notes in the duplicating record book sufficient to identify the animal. A skillful man can do this very rapidly and accurately. He also prepares or is supplied with the metal mane tag with the serial number stamped on it, which is the temporary or shipping number of the animal and is not at any time to be branded on the hoof. These tags properly put on, will remain for months and they can be secured in any quantity with any series of numbers stamped on them. Contractors use them constantly. They can be had with any initial stamped on them in addition to the serial number. This initial could be that of the purchasing officer. Any color or varieties of color can be obtained, and these could be used to temporarily indicate the animal's classification. These tags cost about \$10.00 per 1,000.



branded on the body with the "U.S" and such other descriptive brands as will designate his classification, age and year purchased, etc. This operation, if only one horse at a time is conducted through the whole series of proceedings described, would be slow, but it will be found that there will probably be three and sometimes four animals undergoing a separate part of the process at the same time. For instance, the moment the first horse is handed over to the rider to be saddled and during the saddling, the second horse would be presented to the inspector. The preliminaries with him would just about be completed when the first horse would have completed his circuit of the alley marked "D—E," when the veterinarian would be free to hear his wind and vaccinate him. The first horse then goes to the branders, the second horse to the riders and the third horse appears for preliminaries. The attention of the inspector is not so completely engaged, but what if he is wide awake, he can keep all the functions of the process well under his eye and detect any effort to practice fraud. The rejected animals are taken to the corral at "H" at the opposite end of the inspection point and with no connection between it and the accept—pen or the alley.

It will frequently occur that two horses are being ridden in the exercise lane for wind, which in no way complicates matters.

The principal object in giving the horse a shipping number, is local. For instance, the clerk, as the horse completes his winding, checks the horse by this number which is convenient for the rider to call off and expedites matters. If rejected, the mane tag is removed. If accepted, the color of this tag indicates to the branders what classification brand to put on the haunch. This brand is a hair brand, though there is no reason why it should not be made permanent; and materially assists the receiving depots to instantly classify the animals as they are unloaded or to separate a herd into pens by classes. It also helps in case horses in the accepted corral break out and mingle with the contractors horses; as they can readily be cut out by their haunch brand.

With this system, when the day's work is done, it is done. The shipment off, there is no useless office work to engage the already fatigued clerk or the inspector. Major Hawkins



suggests that five days per week is all that can be expected of a board as Saturday must be devoted to office details. There need be no details which require one day per week simply in office work. The papers connected with any day's purchase are perfectly simple, if we do away with the useless ones. The temporary description is completed as soon as the last horse is accepted. If shipment is to be made at once, the bill of lading can be prepared in ten minutes. Bills of lading can be made out in advance except as to the details of the particular shipment which can be filled in in ten minutes. A form letter should be on hand to be filled in for each shipment and mailed to the receiving depot. This will take not over five minutes.

The duplicate temporary descriptions can be enclosed with it. With a book containing the details of the contract, the days acceptances can be entered against the contract and the status of the contract known in five minutes. If the contractor desire payment, which he will from time to time in order to carry on his contract, let him sign a voucher which is already filled out in the unessential details and make his check. The purchasing officer may not necessarily be the paying officer, in which case he has not even this detail to look after. But should he be, the details of his money transactions are not intricate and should not require an entire day per week. In the stress of emergency there will be no Saturday nor Sunday so far as the military service is concerned, and the sooner we train ourselves to simplify our present complicated methods of transacting business, and handle our business on a scale proportionate to a real army, the better will it be for the service.



## THE PRESENT SABER—IT'S FORM AND THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS DESIGNED.\*

BY FIRST LIEUTENANT GEORGE S. PATTON, JR., TENTH CAVALRY.

EACH point, lunge and the charge saber taught in the Saber Manual, 1914, is also a complete parry for any cut or thrust delivered from the direction of attack. This being the case, it is clearly better to use the lunges now taught, which are also parries, than it would be to use simple negative parries, since this latter, as it does not threaten the enemy in any way, only raises his morale.

The fact that all the attacks taught are also parries, is a fact that is not understood by the vast majority of officers whose only knowledge of fence comes from reading the manual, not from practicing it. Since they see no complicated passive parries described, they think that the trooper is not defended. As just stated, this is not the case. The trooper has but to lunge at his opponent in the manner taught to not only threaten his adversary but at the same time to perfectly protect himself from either a cut or a thrust.

A study of the use of the sword from the beginning, shows that when the art of fence (*de fence*) first developed, that is, when the sword first began to replace armor and shield as a defensive weapon, the parries mentioned above were the only ones taught. They were then called "thrusts of opposition."

The complicated passive parries were invented by the various teachers for the use of duelists, where the contestants

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\*In addition to criticisms as to the balance of the present saber, many officers have favored a slight curve in the blade. More recently, certain troop commanders have contended that the Saber Manual (1914) should contain provision for "cuts" and "parries," and to that extent is defective. In explanation of the omission of these features from the Manual, Lieutenant Patton, who wrote the Manual and who is well known as one of the foremost authorities on fencing in the army, has prepared the following memorandum for the Commandant, Mounted Service School, which has been forwarded to the War Department as representing the views of the School.—Editor.

fought uninterrupted. In the *melée* such will not be the case, meetings between combatants will be brief and to gain success they must be bloody—for the enemy. A soldier who goes about defending himself is doing no good to the tactical issue and will soon be killed, as since he injures no one he will be set upon by several at once and dispatched.

Moreover, since our men carry a pistol, they will never use a saber as a weapon for single combat while out scouting or patrolling. In the charge, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the initial impact will decide the day. Offensive, mordant troopers, imbued with the fierce desire to destroy the enemy by always attacking him, will break troops who, having been over-educated in self-defense enter the fight more desirous of escaping alive by the use of parries than of remaining victorious surrounded by slain opponents.

It is for the purpose of developing this idea of attack, that in the present manual so much time is devoted to running at dummies and so little to combats between men, and in these combats the time has been so reduced that only one attack is possible in each contest.

*Cuts.* In the charge, the point will always beat the edge. It gets there first. It is at least five times more deadly. The point utilizes to the full the momentum of the horse; it gives incisive emphasis to his impact. The cut is perpendicular to the motion of the horse and so only loses in efficiency by reason of it.

When Cyrus the Great first invented "shock tactics" (500 B. C.) he gave his men short pikes, pointing weapons, though for hundreds of years they had used cutting swords dismounted. From his day on, the point has been the weapon of the charge mounted. The charge of the Turk, so often mentioned by advocates of the edge, was in no sense a charge as we know it. They rode up close to their foe and by showers of arrows and darts, later by firing, induced him to break his formation and pursue; then they turned, and being better mounted surrounded and killed individuals. But from the day of Charles Martel on, there is no record of their charging with the sword as we know it.

In the *melée* of armored men, the edge could be used because protected by their armor; they could halt and circle about each other, hacking away, immune to the danger of some passing attack delivered from behind by a third party. Unarmored men cannot so halt, as, if they do, they will be disabled by some passing adversary.

Hence, the reason cuts are not taught in the manual is because to properly use them, the trooper must become immobile and be mounted on a horse trained to rear and turn on the haunches. No cavalry of today have such horses, nor, being unarmored, should they, for the reasons just stated, which prevent unarmored men from halting in the *melée*. In cuts delivered while at the gallop, an uneducated one is nearly as effective as an educated one and neither is so deadly as the point. Hence by not teaching cuts, we put off as long as may be that state of frenzy where the trooper will begin to cut. When he does start to cut, his untutored blows will be fully as effective under his then state of mind as his educated cuts would be under that condition. And by teaching only the point, we have made him use that most deadly form of action as long as possible.

I know personally only two men who have ever cut an enemy in war. One case occurred in the Civil War the other in China. In each case, the skull turned the edge and only a flesh wound was inflicted. Had the men in question used the point they would have killed their opponents, as in each case they were moving at a gallop and if a point touches a man while at that gait it will run him through.

But even were the cuts as good as the point in a *melée*, it still would not justify its use, as *melées* are very rare. It is the initial charge with the point which almost invariably decides the fight, often before even the lines have met, and the trooper has too much to learn to attempt to teach him the cut as well as the point when his defenseless state, so far as armor is concerned, precludes his pulling up to cut properly, when he is seldom if ever in a *melée*, and when, if he is so fortunate, the point is so much more deadly.

Criticism that the Manual of 1914 is designed only for the present saber is correct, in that the saber and manual were

both created at the same time, but whatever the form of saber, unless it assumed the shape of a cymiter, the present manual is far better than the old one, because it treats the saber as a tactical weapon, not as an arm for single combat. If I were to claim any originality in the manual, this statement would be most presumptuous. I do not; it is an almost verbatim copy of the new French Manual and I spent six months practicing it and even instructing it in France. At that time, 1913, the French had three types of saber in their cavalry. One was very similar to our present saber, the other two were like the old issue saber. They used the same manual with all three and got good results. Hence my statement that the virtue of the manual is not dependent on the form of weapon absolutely. Of course, a straight saber is better for thrusting than a curved one, yet a curved one used to thrust will bring far better results than if it is used for cuts. Another fact not fully realized, is that a straight saber is just as good a cutting weapon as a curved one. I have ample historical proof of this statement, but to reduce space will simply mention the straight cutting sword of the Crusader and the deadly claymore of the Highlander. This latter had no point at all and was the most feared cutting weapon of its time.

France is the foremost nation of the world with the saber, and all Europe with the exception of Russia follows her lead in the use of the point. England even went so far that after years of devotion to the edge, she changed so completely to the French school that the present English saber has no edge at all.

In view of the foregoing, I am of the opinion that the present manual should be continued in force till after the close of the war in Europe, when it, in company with most other manuals, may have to undergo changes to conform to the lessons there to be learned. It seems to me an error to attempt changes now in the manual which was up to date when the war started, and it is my firm belief that when some of the officers and non-commissioned officers who have had instruction at the Mounted Service School have a chance to fully illustrate the use of the saber in the new manual, many who through ignorance do not now approve, will then be most favorably impressed.

## THE TYPE OF CAVALRY HORSE FOR CAMPAIGN.

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By CAPTAIN CLARENCE LININGER, CAVALRY.

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THE early period of the recent field operations in Mexico placed a very severe strain upon the strength, endurance and hardihood of the horses of the cavalry. Some became exhausted, others were killed to prevent suffering, while the remainder, almost without exception, were reduced in flesh to a marked degree.

In post life, with regular and moderate exercise and ample forage of a most nourishing variety, the majority of horses maintain themselves in much the same condition; but under the hardships of campaign there is a wastage that before long separates the weak from the strong.

Now if there is anything in the size, conformation, age, temperament or vigor of his organs that will bring a too early break down of an animal, we should know it before field work begins and should use such knowledge for the elimination of the unfit from our picket lines.

With a desire to ascertain why some horses of the troop endured and others did not, the information contained in Tables 1 and 2 was gotten together. All horses belonged to one troop. Table 1 represents the fourteen horses that appeared in best condition to the eye and had been most consistent in the performance of duty, those in best condition appearing at the top of the list. Table 2 represents those that were thinnest, weakest and obviously least capable of further exertion in campaign, the poorest ones being found at the bottom of the list.

The measurements were made in June but would certainly have been the same had they been made two months earlier at the termination of the Villa pursuit, as no change was noticeable during this period. However, shortly thereafter they began to pick up, due to increased forage allowances and the coming of the new grass.

Let us review briefly the work the horses did and the hardships they endured between Wednesday, March 15th and Wednesday April 12th. The distance covered was 545 miles, 18.8 miles per day, or 22.7 miles for each actual marching day, while two additional reconnaissances increased the mileage for some above that shown. Except for the shelter tents, they carried full pack, which included grain in grain bag and feed bag, and such rations as were obtainable. The grain fed was about equally divided between oats and corn, but as the horses were unaccustomed to the latter and none too fond of it, they ate but sparingly until forced by the pangs of hunger. Straw and wild hay were each fed once, and corn fodder seven or eight times, but usually it was necessary to depend for roughage upon grazing upon the wild grasses that at this season of the year were becoming dried out and fibrous. It was noticed that native stock was not in very good condition. After March 21st, the men did individual cooking and as they were very much occupied in bivouac, the grazing was usually done at favorable places along the line of march. The nights were cold, so that the horses shivered considerably especially shortly before dawn and this must have depleted their reserve powers.

The officers and non-commissioned officers were unremitting in their devotion and care for the troop horses. No opportunities for a swallow of water or a mouthful of grass were allowed to pass. When the character of the work disclosed itself to the individual trooper and he realized that his riding or walking, nay even life itself, might depend upon the horse assigned him, he became no less solicitous. Undoubtedly the applied skill and experience of the rider were of great benefit to the horse in certain cases; but passing from the realm of facts and figures to that of opinion, I venture to say that no horse is listed in one table or the other through that alone, but that he is where he is because he is inherently better or poorer than his mates.

Some of the marching was over dusty roads but not a small proportion of it was in the mountains along rocky and precipitous trails. In the beginning, when the roads were good, the trot was often taken up as on practice marches, but with the enforced reduction of the grain ration, the shortage of long



forage, and the gradual weakening of the horses, trotting became almost unknown. On the other hand dismounted leading was resorted to in a greater degree. There were only two night marches but they were severe ones.

Let us scan the tables and see what the averages reveal in regard to the horses of this troop. The best horses were, as compared with the poorest ones:

1. Younger in years.
2. Younger in service.
3. Longer of leg.
4. Deeper in body.
5. Taller in height at the withers.
6. Shorter of body.
7. Greater in girth.

Conversely the poorest horses were:

1. Older in years.
2. Older in service.
3. Shorter of leg.
4. Shallower in body.
5. Shorter in height at the withers.
6. Longer of body.
7. Less in girth.

In regard to age and years of service the balance did not fall heavily to one side or the other. All had been in the service long enough to be conditioned, and none was so old in years that his poor conditions could be attributed to that as the determining factor.

But when we come to consider the physical proportions, we see that it is the tall, long-legged, deep-chested, short-bodied horse that longest maintained his condition. We see also that he is a "square" horse. As it is put by *Gobaux and Barrier*, "What we have said in regard to these proportions naturally foreshadows that, with Bourgelat, we give preference to the square horse, one in which the height at the withers is sensibly equal to his length, and which therefore might be inscribed within a perfect square."

The average of the poorest horses showed a long horse mechanically incorrect for weight carrying, and a small horse not strong enough for the burden placed upon his back.

It is regretted that facilities were not available for weighing the animals, but unquestionably the poorest were the lightest.

A more detailed study disclosed a minimum of physical or temperamental defects among the best horses while among the others there were numerous ones that brought about or were contributory to poor condition.

For example:

No. 31, narrow chest, camper behind, molars wearing, forges, did not like corn, poor rustler for food on the march, interferes in front, teeth and digestion not good as evidenced by amount of corn passing through whole.

No. 49, long back, stocked up behind, parrot mouth, slow walker, blind in left eye.

No. 69, toes out in front, jigger, digestion not good.

No. 65, slightly sway-back, molars wearing.

No. 41, narrow chest, demands good water to drink, digestion not good.

No. 51, cribber, chews picket line constantly.

No. 29, parrot-mouth, slow walker, slow eater, loins long and weak.

No. 60, long back, parrot-mouth, digestion not good.

No. 8, loins long, molars wearing, slow eater, too peaceable, cribber, nervous habit of throwing his head.

No. 35, flat ribs, slow walker, would not eat when tired, digestion not good, spine convex toward left.

No. 67, tucked up.

No. 7, withers high and thin, loins long and weak, toes out in front, tucked up, rough trotter, too peaceable, stumbler.

This study does not bring out a single new fact, nor one not already known, but is merely another link in the chain of proof that our service mount must possess good teeth, good digestion, excellent power of assimilation, an omnivorous appetite, soundness, size and strength to carry his burden easily, legs long enough to maintain regulation gaits without over exertion, and beautiful proportions.

TABLE I.—BEST HORSES.

Troop Number	Age	Years of Service	Color	When and Where Purchased	Height to Chest	Length to Body	Height at Withers	Length of Body	Girth
53.....	7	2	B.	1914—Ill.	33	29½	62½	68½	73
22.....	6	3	B.	1913—Ks.	34	30	64	67	74
40.....	8	3	Bl.	1913—Ill.	31	29	60	60½	72
56.....	7	3	Bl.	1913—Mo.	33½	27	60½	60	70
66.....	13	5	Bl.	1911—?	34	28	62	63	70
12.....	6	3	B.	1913—Mo.	34	29½	63½	63	74
68.....	6	2	Br.	1914—Mo.	35	29	64	67	71
36.....	9	5	B.	1911—Okla.	34	30½	64½	67	75
3.....	6	3	B.	1913—Mo.	33	27	60	61½	72½
16.....	11	7	B.	1909—Mo.	32½	28	60½	56	69
4.....	11	7	B.	1909—Mo.	33	31	64	62	74
54.....	12	7	S.	1909—Ill.	33	29½	62½	65	73
9.....	7	2	B.	1914—Ks.	31	29	60	65	70
10.....	11	7	B.	1909—Mo.	31½	30½	62	65	73
Averages.....	8.57	4.21			33.03	29.11	62.14	63.61	72.18

TABLE II—POOREST HORSES.

Troop Number	Age	Years of Service	Color	When and Where Purchased	Height to Chest	Length to Body	Height at Withers	Length of Body	Girth
31.....	15	10	Bl.	1906—?	32	28½	60½	62	70
49.....	11	7	B.	1909—Mo.	32½	30½	63	64	71
69.....	6	3	B.	1913—Mo.	34	29	63	63½	72
65.....	12	8	Bl.	1908—Nev.	32	27	59	64	69
41.....	8	5	B.	1911—Mo.	33	28	61	64	71
6.....	7	5	B.	1911—Tex.	32½	29½	62	64½	71½
59.....	9	2	B.	1914—Ill.	33	30	63	65	73
51.....	7	3	B.	1913—Okla.	31½	28½	60	64	70
29.....	12	7	S.	1909—Ill.	31	28	59	63½	69
60.....	7	4	Bl.	1912—Mo.	35	28	63	68	73
8.....	12	7	Bl.	1909—Mo.	33½	29	62½	63	72
35.....	7	3	Bl.	1913—Tex.	34	27½	61½	63	69
67.....	8	3	B.	1913—Okla.	32	28	60	61	69
7.....	7	2	B.	1914—Tex.	33	30	63	63	73
Averages.....	9.14	4.93			32.78	28.68	61.46	63.75	70.85

## NOTES ON OUR REMOUNT SERVICE.\*

By CAPTAIN JAMES N. MUNRO, Q. M. CORPS, (CAVALRY).

THE experiences of the past six or eight months must have impressed, not only our mounted service, but the service at large, with the necessity for a properly organized, logical system for supplying our army with remounts. The following notes are hastily prepared on request, and are neither very coherent nor complete and will deal very briefly with the points that have especially appealed to the writer.

### THE REMOUNT DEPOTS.

We have, at present, no remount system, contrary to prevailing impressions. We have three so-called remount depots, which are largely experimental and were established with a view to experimentation and not with the idea that they could, or would, supply all the necessary remounts to our service. It is therefore absurd to criticise the depots because they are unable to meet emergencies. The two western depots carry from 1,000 to 2,000 animals; the Front Royal depot a less number. Inasmuch as these animals were all purchased as young remounts only a small percentage of them are matured and ready for issue each year. There are only two officers on duty at each depot and they have under them a very limited personnel. The operation of a depot in itself is no light task, when it is considered that the two western depots are endeavoring to raise sufficient forage to carry their animals through the winter. This means the conduct of a large farm which would ordinarily require the undivided attention of one busy man with a considerable experience in agricultural work. But in addition to

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\*Many of the points covered in this article were discussed by me with Captain William H. Clopton, Jr., Q. M. Corps, my assistant at the Fort Reno Remount Depot. I am indebted to him for many of the best ideas therein.—J. N. M.

depot operations proper, the officers must cover a large remount zone, consisting of several States, search out breeders, secure suitable young horses for stocking the depot, and talk to breeders regarding the purpose of the depot with a view to arousing interest in the breeding of proper remounts.

Now this work is interesting, it is a step in the right direction, and will, if properly expanded and developed, eventually improve the character of our remounts. It has done so, to a limited extent, already. Officers have found that there is the liveliest kind of interest among ranchmen and breeders in the remount work, and many of them have done everything they could to try and produce the type of animal which seemed to meet with approval. There are several ranches in the Fort Reno zone from which some years ago the depot was unable to secure even one suitable animal, which are now furnishing from one to two carloads annually of very good remounts. There is no difficulty in arousing interest; the difficulty is in reaching throughout the entire zone yearly and maintaining the interest. I am convinced that our present depots are working along the right lines and that what we need now is an expansion of the system and a systematic training of officers for the work, so that there may be cooperation and a uniformity of ideas as to what the service requires in the way of remounts.

Briefly then, my idea is this: Several large central depots, each with a prescribed zone, for the receiving, training and distribution of animals. These depots ought to have a sufficient personnel so that the work would be continuous. I have thought that depot troops and batteries, one from each regiment, might be stationed at these central depots and solve the training problem, but this is a matter for the General Staff and not for an individual to decide. In any case, the training personnel should be made up of selected men who have had proper instruction in modern training, preferably at the Mounted Service School.

Each central depot should have a sufficient number of sub-depots to properly cover its zone at all times. The sub-depots need not be large establishments and the personnel could be very limited. The office of the sub-depots would be to keep a record of the breeders in their sector, the number of remounts

each breeder could probably furnish annually, and to advise with the breeders on matters pertaining to the breeding of proper remounts. When called on by the central depot, the officers of the sub-depots could promptly cover their sector and purchase a designated number of animals, hold them at the sub-depot until they had been prepared for shipment,—this to include the necessary protection against infectious disease, and then ship directly to the central depot. In this way the sub-depots would never at any time have a large number of animals on hand to care for, and the officers on duty there could be occupied in legitimate remount work. They could also keep a record of all animals of mature age which would be suitable in case of emergency. Such animals could be purchased by the sub-depots and shipped directly to the emergency point. In any case, the depot officers should consider themselves in the light of remount missionaries and endeavor, above all things, to raise the standard of animals in their zone; and not as philanthropists, accepting from breeders indifferent animals with the idea that they are encouraging the work of the depot. The higher the standard set, the closer will breeders attempt to attain it.

Something on the lines of the above system, would, I believe, work in peace, but for the emergency of war we must have something to supplement it. There must be prepared all the necessary plans for the supply of remounts along the lines of communication, there must be rest stations, hospitals etc., ready to expand and follow the army in the field. This can all be done, with plans of a uniform type covering the details of shelter, personnel, and other equipment. It need never be put in operation till the emergency arises. Officers with their proper personnel may then be detailed for this duty at the outbreak of hostilities and furnished a complete set of plans for their auxiliary depot, hospital, or rest station, with authority to go ahead and construct it, securing the material where most convenient.

Over the entire remount service should be an officer, call him the Superintendent of Remounts, or what you want, in whose office all the details of the system should be worked out and through whose office everything pertaining to the remount



service should pass. He should be absolutely in charge of the system and should be required to make frequent inspections thereof.

Another important feature of the remount system should be its veterinary service. I know of no place where the work of the veterinary surgeon is so constant or presents such a variety as at a remount depot. Only veterinarians who have a particular aptitude for remount work should be selected. They should be comparatively young, active men with confidence in their own skill, ready to take professional chances and with an unusual capacity for work. They should be kept on duty as remount veterinarians just as long as their work is satisfactory and their age permits. There should be a sufficient veterinary personnel at each depot to handle the work efficiently and economically. The loss occasioned by a sudden epidemic in an undermanned hospital would shortly pay for additional veterinary service.

Remount officers should be trained for the work and not selected haphazard from the mounted service. There is no use denying that our mounted service is woefully deficient in training for this work. Only a small percentage of our mounted officers give any attention to this phase of their work. Many of them have no natural ability along this line and do not hesitate to confess their indifference to it. They are in most instances, not to be blamed for this, when our method of assigning officers to the mounted service is considered. But immediate steps should be taken to correct this condition, at least in so far as it affects our remount system. We have a Mounted Service School and it has resulted in a vast improvement in our horsemanship, but it can do more. It is not working to full capacity, nor will it be until it has been expanded to reach a much larger number of officers and enlisted men and established a course of training especially for remount work. Such a course would at least result in some uniformity of opinion as to the type of service we should have and cooperation among purchasing officers as to methods and standards. That no such cooperation exists and that evil results therefrom will be touched on under "The Contract System."

Today we find officers selected for remount work without any regard to their training therefor and even in spite of the fact that they do not desire the work. There is no secret about this. Officers so detailed have objected to the duty, pointed out their own lack of training and interest, but were required to accept the duty. It is manifest that no matter what the professional zeal of such an officer may be, he is badly handicapped to say the least, and cannot be expected to secure the best results.

#### THE CONTRACT SYSTEM.

It is evident that for many years to come, we shall, in times of emergency be obliged to depend to some extent on the contract system of purchasing mature animals. Where time is a factor, we must look to the dealer who has all the necessary machinery already in operation for the prompt assembling of large numbers of animals at convenient shipping points. The question is, how this may be done to the best advantage and with the least loss. The dealer naturally operates from large stock yards where there are all the conveniences for shipping and for handling economically, and where he knows his territory. Stock yards in constant use for years are the most prolific breeders of disease, and under the stress of emergencies, such as large government contracts, they are crowded to capacity, increasing the chances of infection. This feature, at least, could be obviated.

To illustrate: The Fort Reno depot during the months of July, August and September, was purchasing under rather large contracts in Oklahoma City. All the contractors operated in the Union Stockyards. The pens were frequently so crowded that animals were dripping from perspiration and practically gasping for air. They stood in these close pens for days, without proper exercise and under the most favorable conditions for the spread of contagion. Thirty miles away was the Fort Reno depot, with all the necessary rail facilities for assembling, with more than 9,000 acres of range, sufficient shelter from the weather, a good hospital and all the conveniences for inspecting and handling. There was no reason why the contractors should not have assembled their animals at this depot. Both remount officers were there and their travel

and consequent absence from their depot duties would have been avoided. The work would have gone much faster, more economically, and the loss both to the contractor and the government would have been materially reduced. The contractor realizes the loss he must count on as a result of handling in close and infected pens, and he must naturally bid that much higher on his contract to cover this loss. This example is given simply to show how we might handle our contracts at a considerable saving to the government and to the entire satisfaction of the contractor.

We have government reservations that could be utilized for this purpose, and where such reservation is not available it would pay to lease temporarily a tract of waste or cheap land at a convenient assembling point and erect the proper temporary equipment. The inspecting officers could be stationed there during the continuance of the contract and have under their supervision at all times the handling of the animals both before and after purchase. Rejects could be promptly and permanently separated from acceptances and fresh shipments, and the contractor could be required to ship them out in a given time after their rejection. Acceptances could be held until properly prepared for shipment, with the resultant loss from shipping fever and allied diseases materially reduced. The cost to the contractor would be no greater, in fact it should be less, and the results for the government would be vastly more satisfactory.

Under the contract system as it now exists, contracts are awarded from the O. Q. M. G. and assigned to various depots for purchase. Officers are detailed to purchase under certain contracts. These officers are entirely independent of each other or of any general head. They operate independently. What is the result? What *may* be the result is illustrated by what occurred at one purchasing point. There were several contracts awarded to as many dealers at this particular point. Officers were detailed to inspect under the several contracts and the inspections were practically continuous for a period of two months or more. The inspection points were, of course, as numerous as the contractors, and all in the vicinity of the Union Stock Yards. On one occasion some fifty-three or four

horses were inspected by one officer, who accepted only two from the lot. The remainder, all rejects, were led a distance of less than half a mile, presented under another contract to another officer and accepted to a horse. This occurred not once, but many times, until official cognizance was taken of it and means taken to stop it. Now this was entirely the result of lack of system, lack of coöperation, and failure to train officers for this particular duty. Also it was the result, as I stated above, of selecting officers for this duty without regard to their ability or aptitude for it. It is not necessary to waste time in suggesting a remedy for this. It should be obvious to any one.

If a proper remount service is organized and maintained, the contract system for the purchase of mature animals in emergencies may be made to work to the best advantage and made the means of promptly furnishing excellent remounts in large numbers, and it need not necessarily be nearly so expensive as at present. I found that contractors generally do their best to furnish as nearly the type of animal that their inspector will accept, as it is possible for them to do under the terms of the contract. One cannot expect registered stock or perfectly formed animals at \$145.00. As a rule the quality of the animals shown, improved rapidly after the first inspection or two. At first a great many indifferent animals were shown. The contractor naturally did not know what his inspector would accept and he was not going to show a class of horse that was any better than he had to show. Just as soon as he learned what he had to do he tried his best to do it. At a rough estimate I would say that, of those contracts handled from the Fort Reno depot, acceptances were about twenty five per cent, of all animals shown. If anything, the percentage was less than this, lowering the standard and designating "small cavalry" and "small artillery" horses, as was done under the recent contracts, caused considerable difficulty. I am of the opinion that it would have been better to have maintained the regular standard in the specifications and then informed purchasing officers that they might accept undersized animals wherever the quality warranted it. One frequently finds an excellent animal between 14—2 and 15 hands; the quality generally is poor. You are presented with a lot of animals without bone, narrow

ched, cat-hammed, with all the indications of lack of stamina. This was the rule in the case of horses presented under the small cavalry class.

In the case of the small artillery class, we were shown a large percentage of horses which had no classification whatever. They might be described as little draught horses; small horses with draughty lines, and all the faults of crossing a heavy draught stallion on an undersized, small boned mare without constitution; practically useless for any purpose. Inasmuch as I was without any practical experience with artillery horses, I made every effort to get the opinion of artillery officers as to their requirements. I received a variety of opinions equal to the number of officers consulted. I was therefore reduced to the necessity of using my own judgment entirely. We found that in the heavy class (horses weighing above 1,300 pounds), the quality of those shown was uniformly good. In many instances we were agreeably surprised at the uniformly good quality of certain lots presented. There was little difficulty in securing a good heavy horse. Contractors finally found so much difficulty in purchasing horses of the small cavalry class that would pass, that they began presenting specification horses. They stated that they were simply obliged to do this in order to fill their contracts. It is for this reason that I have said that it would have been much better not to have specified a small horse in the contracts, but to have left the acceptance of the small horses to the inspector.

Many good horses were secured under the small horse contracts, due to the fact that contractors were obliged to present specification animals in order to fill their contracts, but this is not fair to the contractor and would result in his bidding much higher in the future on this class of animals. The contractor has many things to contend with. He is practically at the mercy of his corps of field buyers. It is remarkable, however, and should be a good object lesson to us, the coöperation between the contractor and his best buyers. They very shortly discover the type of horse which will be accepted and the accuracy with which some of these men are able to select this type in their buying shows long training and a thorough understanding with

their employer. The same coöperation and understanding should exist in our remount service.

What the quality of the animals purchased under contract during the past summer was in general, I cannot say. I saw many of these animals early in November at Ft. Sam Houston and Ft. Bliss, but they were not generally in first class condition, and not under conditions which would have obtained had they been issued to organizations and cared for individually. I also saw the animals of two new cavalry regiments which had been mounted from these contract horses. While I did not see the entire mount of these regiments, I consulted officers as to their quality and found that they believed that they had an excellent mount. The commanding officer of one of these regiments stated that he was specially proud of his mount and that they had developed under training so that they performed well under all the tests of garrison training. I noted that the type of mount in this regiment was pretty uniform. It was the small, close coupled horse, rather short of leg with somewhat heavy bone, broad quarters with a tendency to draughtiness, and plenty of food space. I inquired if this type was generally satisfactory to the regiment and was told that it was. When I say that these horses were small, I do not mean that they were ponies, but that they were under rather than over 15—2. I was also informed that many good mounts were being issued from the small cavalry class which had originally been purchased especially for issue to the militia. The small cavalry class were being picked over and many of them re-classified as specification cavalry, and I was informed that many good cavalry mounts were found in this class. On the whole, perhaps the game was worth the candle. We learned something, anyhow.

Regarding the percentage of loss due to shipping diseases and their after results, all the remount depots on the border agreed that the shipments from the Kansas City zone, especially those from the St. Louis yards, had the largest percentage. This I know is true of those received at the Ft. Reno depot. The horses purchased in this zone (K. C.) are the finest looking animals we receive. The quality is uniformly good and their condition on arrival excellent, but they do not seem to be able

to withstand exposure and many of them are apparently infected with one or other of the diseases, commonly classified as "distemper," on their arrival. It is also from this zone that all the mouth disease, or *stomatitis*, apparently comes. There was an epidemic of this at the Ft. Sam Houston Depot when I was there in November. While this is not in itself fatal, it is very infectious, and seriously interferes with the animal's eating. The result is that many of the infected animals run down in flesh and become a prey to other diseases.

#### FOREIGN BUYING.

There have been various opinions as to the effect of the purchase of horses and mules in this country by representatives of the Allies. Many have been inclined to view this so-called purchase with alarm. Others have taken the stand that, on account of the class of animals purchased, the Allies were really doing us a service by removing this horseflesh from the country. Though neither of these views is quiet correct, I believe that the latter is more nearly the true one. In the first place, what percentage of the total number of horses in this country are the Allies buying? According to official figures published some months ago, the total number of animals purchased by the Allies amounted to only six per cent. of the total number of horses in the country. This is hardly an alarming figure and the rate of purchase has since fallen off considerably. Now then, what part of this six per cent. were desirable animals and should not have been allowed to leave the country? Those of us who had a chance to observe the foreign buyers at work and look over the animals they purchased, know that the percentage of desirable animals was small. In many instances they took our rejects almost to a horse. This was one reason why our contractors were able to furnish us as good a class of animals as they did. Had they had no place to dispose of their rejects, they would, in some cases, have lost rather heavily. In this way the Allies' buying helped us.

So far as the mares purchased by the Allies are concerned, I may say that I saw but few desirable mares purchased, and these were all of the heavy type. We know that they bought a large percentage of defective animals, not that they did not



see the defects, but simply because this class of animal came cheaper and was not so affected by his defect that he was not good for a few months at least. This was simply business on the part of the Allies.

Taking everything into consideration, I do not believe that foreign buying has hurt our horse supply to an extent worth considering. In a few localities where the foreign buyer purchased young horses, he did cause a shortage of colts and a small rise in price, but I know of only a few such localities. In other instances, breeders refused to sell their colts to the depot this year on the grounds that they had disposed of so much of their mature stock to the foreign buyer that they would need their young stock for work. These instances are very few in number and have practically no effect on the general condition of the young horse market.

In any future contingency where foreign buying becomes general, it would be a very simple matter to require all animals inspected and accepted by such buyers to be passed on by government inspectors and require the buyer to turn back to the contractor or owner, all animals which it was deemed were too valuable to be allowed to leave the country. All foreign buying should be under some form of government supervision in any case, and subject to regulations which would prevent injury to our horse supply.

#### GOVERNMENT BREEDING.

The question of breeding animals for the service and what part the federal government should take therein is still a long way from settlement. There is nothing more certain than this, the federal government must at no very distant day, regulate and control the breeding of all live stock, if we are to maintain our place in the world market. This is being done in some cases by the states and many of our states have excellent laws regulating stock breeding, but to be effective and produce uniform results, the regulation must come from the center of government. In no branch of live stock breeding is regulation more important than in the case of the horse.

So far as the service horse is concerned, I do not favor strictly government breeding, that is where both sires and dams

are the property of the United States. Such a course would not tend to quickly or generally improve the horse standard of the country, which after all, is the important point. When we have succeeded in raising the standard of the horse in the country at large, there will be no difficulty in finding service mounts in abundance. The part which I believe the federal government should take, ought to be more in the line of advice and encouragement. For instance, I believe that government owned stallions stationed throughout the country with strict inspection of mares presented for service, would assist in arousing interest in the service horse and result in a decided improvement in the quality of colts available for remount work. I would not make the services of the stallion free, but would charge a nominal fee, sufficient to cover expense of maintenance. Gifts of this character are never appreciated. Neither would I advise an option on the colts. This creates a spirit of opposition on the face of it. A careful registry of the colts with their location should be sufficient. After the system had been operating for a few years, there would be an ample supply of desirable animals so that an option would work rather as a disadvantage.

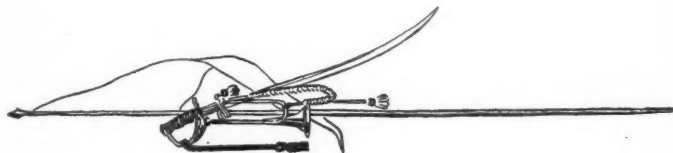
The other method which might be made equally practical, would be for the federal government to either supply stallions of selected type to individual breeders of repute and known responsibility, or to groups of breeders in one locality and then advise with the breeders as to methods of breeding to secure the type of horse wanted and inspect frequently to see that instructions were carried out. Frequent visits from a remount officer would greatly encourage a sincere breeder and arouse his interest in the work. I know a number of such men in my remount zone who are right now so interested in the matter that they would enter into almost any agreement for an opportunity like this. A number of the breeders in my zone have said to me that they didn't ask for anything except advice; all they wanted was for the federal authorities to say what they wanted them to do, what type of stallions they should buy, what mares, how they should be bred, and that they, the breeders, would furnish the capital.

As one of them remarked, "*Hell! I've got the money; all I want to know is what you fellows want, but I'll be damned if I can find out.*" And there is the whole thing in a nutshell, somewhat pointed, to be sure, but true. We don't know what we want, or rather we are not agreed on what we want, which amounts to the same thing.

In the case of supplying stallions to breeders, the government could easily protect itself against loss in any one of a dozen ordinary business ways, and I thoroughly favor business methods in this entire matter, and not charity. Where a breeder is found, who plainly shows indifference or lack of interest, let the stallion be taken from him promptly and placed in proper hands. The details of such a system would have to be worked out from experience, but it could readily be done at a moderate cost.

#### THE SERVICE HORSE.

What shall the service horse be? Are we to look for him in the pure bred of some standard breed, or must we develop a type by selection and crossing? It would be absurd for me to enter into a discussion of this question. Any such discussion is simply a signal for a storm of criticism in which it is impossible for anyone to get the best of the argument and which eventually arrives nowhere. One man's opinion is as good as another's and none of them are worth anything until put to the test. I think I may safely say however, without fear of assassination, that I am convinced that we will never mount ourselves with any one recognized breed. I have my own idea as to what we want, but I carry a very small accident insurance, and cannot afford to take chances. I am still a comparatively young man and have something to live for!



## BALANCE IN HORSES.

BY CAPTAIN EMIL ENGEL, SEVENTEENTH CAVALRY.

### SOME ANATOMICAL REASONS.

THE term balance is used here to describe a feeling that the rider experiences, of his horse being in balance. In reality it is no more than the coördinate action of a great many muscles which to the rider give a feeling of equilibrium or balance.

The impulsive power of the horse rests in the coördinate action of the muscles of the hind legs, the back, and the muscles of the forehand. Many riders on equitation seem to ignore the impulsive power of the muscles of the forehand as they lack the power of those of the hind legs, but their influence on the feeling of balance of the horse is far greater than usually supposed.

To transmit a force to another body, it is necessary that the body have enough firmness to resist any compression of itself when the force is applied. If it lacks sufficient firmness, some of the force will be used in compressing the body until enough resistance is found to transmit the remaining force. When a horse transmits the power of his hocks and stifles to his body, its economic transmission depends upon the coördinate action of the long muscle of the back (*longissimus dorsi*). This muscle is the largest muscle in the body of the horse and extends from the fourth cervical vertebræ to the pelvis. It is attached to every vertebræ and in contracting furnishes the resistance necessary for a proper transmission of the power of the hind legs. The more powerful the stride the more powerful should be the contraction of this muscle. The power of muscular contraction depends upon the number of muscular fibers that are contracted. It is possible that many fibers remain inactive and allow themselves to be compressed or bent by the fibers that do contract.

The neck of the horse is very flexible. Many muscles are attached to certain vertebræ of the neck thus giving them a point of support from which to act. Suppose some of the vertebræ of the neck to which these muscles are attached, are distorted by some external power like the hand of men, and the muscular fibres placed out of line, thereby making them inactive and preventing their action upon the bones to which they are attached, thus materially weakening the power of the muscle by lessening the number of fibers available for contraction, and later causing a wasting away of muscle due to non-use? This is exactly what happens when a rider by means of the bit, distorts the neck of the horse, thus preventing full contraction of the long muscle of the back, and other important muscles, such as the *serratus magnus*. We can now accept as a principle in equitation, the avoidance of distorting the neck of a horse along the fourth to seventh cervical vertebræ by pulling the head towards the face of the rider or sinking it into the breast of the horse.

The law of association is the basis of control of the horse by man. The mind of the horse is taught to associate forward movement with pressure of the legs of the rider or a touch of the whip, while he associates checking the forward movement with the pull on the bit. This is the most elementary equitation and is probably the limit attained by nine hundred and ninety-nine riders out of a thousand.

There is, however, a more refined application of the law of association in which the rider still associates forward movement with the touch of the legs but refines the checking of forward movement by a refined use of the hand. It has been stated that the long muscle of the back should contract in a coördinate manner with every impulsive step, in order that the force may be correctly transmitted. Now suppose we could feel every contraction of the long muscle of the back on the hand? We could then associate in the mind of the horse a more refined control in controlling every impulsive step. By what means can we transmit the muscular contraction of the back to the hand of the rider? If this muscle is coördinating properly, its muscular contraction will reach up to the fourth cervical vertebræ (its most advanced point of attachment), but this is about half the length of the neck away from the top of the head,

and it must be transmitted to the lower jaw to reach the hand. Just as it is necessary that the long muscle of the back contract in coördination with the muscles of the hind leg in order to transmit the force, so it will be necessary to have some muscular contraction coördinating between the fourth cervical vertebræ and the jaw with the contractions of the back muscle. This is accomplished in refined equitation by teaching the horse to associate in his mind with a touch of the bit, an opening of the mouth, which is done by a very weak muscle, easily fatigued, thus compelling him in order to get relief, to put his upper jaw against the bit so that he can close his mouth. As the bit does not move, the horse shortens the distance between the bit and the hand by arching his neck. There are three ways in which he can shorten the distance between the hand and the bit, so that he can close his mouth, viz.:

1. By curving the whole neck along all the cervical vertebræ. By doing this he distorts the fibers of the long back muscle; also, of a very important shoulder muscle (*serratus magnus*), interfering very seriously with their action and the balance of muscular coördination of the horse. To do this he must lower his head towards his breast.

2. By raising the neck and curving the cervical vertebræ in an opposite manner thus interfering with the proper action of the same muscles.

3. By a flexion at the *atlanto occipital* joint, and further shortened by a flexion between the second and third cervical vertebræ which is produced by a contraction of the *rectus capitis ventralis* major muscle, which originates at the fifth, fourth and third cervical vertebræ and is inserted about the junction of the occipital bone with the sphenoid bone in the upper part of the skull. By this means we have sufficient muscular firmness to transfer the muscular contractions of the long back muscle to the upper part of the skull and through the masseter muscle, which the horse uses to close his mouth, to the bit and thence through the reins to the hand of the rider. This brings the horse truly *in hand* and we can now feel on the hand very distinctly, every step of the horse. As this feeling is produced by muscular contraction there is a decided but very slight back-

ward and forward motion to the hand which keeps time with every step of the horse and enables us to slow each step by delaying the duration of the *feel*, thus *collecting* the muscular forces of the horse. It also enables us to associate in the mind of the horse a meeting on the hand of each step, with an increased muscular effort, stimulated by the legs of the rider, and retarding it by delaying the time of duration of the *feel* of each step as in collecting the horse, thus storing up muscular energy, which is absolutely the limit of refinement in equitation and is called the *rassembler*.

#### THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF BALANCE IN A MILITARY HORSE.

"From the extensive investigation by Kuntz on work in horses, it is shown that as a mere machine the horse compares favorably with the best of modern engines. With animals at moderate work, the part of the energy which appeared in external work varied from 28.8 to 36.6 per cent of the total energy expended. The best steam engines have about 19.6 per cent, while the average engine falls below 10 per cent. Gasoline engines range in efficiency from 10 to 27 per cent.

"In addition to performing external work, the body must prepare and transport its own fuel, store it until needed, make all repairs, and maintain a definite temperature, as well direct, move, and control itself."

When the daily food consumed by the animal machine is insufficient for the daily work the latter lives upon itself. It calls on its reserve in first the fat, then on the muscular tissue itself. When an engine runs out of fuel it stops. You cannot rip the fender off your automobile and put it in your gas tank and run along.

"Kuntz found great variation in the energy expended by different horses of the same weight in traveling upon a level track; a lame horse expended 99 per cent. more energy than a sound one. In the work of climbing a grade he found a variation with different horses of as much as 52 per cent. in the proportion of the total energy which appeared as useful work. An animal which is able to accomplish one form of work most economically, may have to expend an unusual amount of energy at other kinds of work. For example, horses bred for genera-



tions to the saddle, can carry the rider with smaller expenditure of energy than those whose breeding, form, and qualities, specially fit them for draft purposes. Fatigue causes an increase of from 14 to 41 per cent. in the amount of energy expended in performing a given amount of work. This increased expenditure of energy is largely due to the fact that with increasing fatigue the muscles normally used, and which are the most efficient in performing the given work, are put out of use. The other less used muscles are called upon to a constantly increasing degree, and these cannot perform the work so efficiently or economically."

From the above statistics we can safely assume that about 40 per cent. more efficiency is gained when we teach horses to go in balance and ride them in balance. In campaign, with horses that have been balanced during peace training, and this balanced way of moving has become *reflex*, we find the greatest efficiency. We get out of them the most for the least. Their muscular development being uniform, they carry the greatest amount of animal reserve, and their way of moving being most economical, they expend the least energy in daily work. When ration issues are necessarily cut, and work is increased, we find such horses standing the work. When the period of rest occurs they recuperate quickly, store up reserve, and are soon ready for another drive.

#### MILITARY HORSE TRAINING.

"Without sufficient cavalry your victories are without result," seems to hold as good today as in the time of all previous great masters of the art of war.

A great military leader seeks a complete victory when he engages an enemy. He seeks to destroy him entirely and to do this he endeavors to surround him and to cut him off from all assistance, long enough to give time for his complete destruction. To do this, the element of time is the most important. We assume he has vigor and valor in his troops and splendid co-ordination in the various working parts. Just as he seeks a complete victory, so his opponent finding himself out classed, seeks to prevent a complete victory by never allowing himself to be surrounded. He therefore secures safety through flight.

Clausewitz says that no matter how small his command, a leader always has an eye on his get-away. No machine yet has been invented that will equal the horse in economic efficiency to carry out the principle of obtaining a complete victory by surrounding the enemy, and any system of military horse training that over looks getting the greatest economic efficiency out of the horse is wrong in principle.

It has previously been shown that a balanced horse gives us the greatest economic efficiency. Hence a system of military horse training should be "a search for balance," and the best system will be that system which will give us that balance in the shortest space of time. It is a fact in physical training, that if you practice repeatedly a certain movement in an inefficient manner you confirm yourself in this incorrect way and make it very difficult to change to the correct manner. You confirm yourself in a bad habit and you have to break off the bad habit before you can acquire the correct habit. The work is trebled at least. Hence it becomes of the greatest importance to put your horse in a balanced position from the very beginning and never allow him to assume an incorrect position. When he has acquired the correct way of going, and it has become *reflex*, his training is complete; but he must continue to be ridden correctly or he may acquire an unbalanced way of moving.

It is supposed by many that if a horse is ridden and left to himself, he will have a natural balance which will be correct. This reasoning is false. The weight of the rider is sufficient to cause new conditions of muscular coördination. It varies with the individual and this so-called natural balance is a misnomer. Natural balance is the muscular coördination without a rider or any weight and uninfluenced by man. The influence of man may be good or bad and remains with the horse even when without a rider, so that a horse badly balanced, remains badly balanced even when turned loose and untroubled by man.

We read in books of the necessity of altering the position of the center of gravity by bringing the head near a vertical position. This reasoning is correct, provided in so doing the muscular coördination of certain very important muscles attached to the neck are not interfered with. The position of

the center of gravity is a minor detail compared to perfect muscular coördination in a military system of horse training.

Military systems of horse training may therefore be divided into two classes:

1. Systems which leave the horse to himself and trust to chance to secure balance.

2. Systems which put the horse in a balanced position from the beginning.

You may have your choice.

#### AN IDEAL IN HORSE TRAINING.

The military riding schools of the great powers are continually changing their manuals of equitation. They do not seem to be settled as to what is correct and why. There is one authority however whose principles have been adopted by a great power in its military riding school, whose expression of principles has been unchanged. M. Clemenceau is given credit by Hayes for putting into writing the principles of one of the best if not the best authority on the balanced horse. These principles are expressed in two books—*Breaking and Riding*, translated from French into English by Hayes; and *Journal de Dressage*, translated but not published by the same authority. Both books are by James Fillis. The Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia had Fillis come to the Cavalry School at St. Petersburg as chief riding instructor, where he remained for ten years. His principles are the basis of the Russian Manual of Equitation.

Let us now see what is expected of a horse trained by insisting on balance from the beginning. A translation of an appendix in *Journal de Dressage* on the "Cavalry Schools of Europe" is quoted: "I must speak of the Russian School. We have twelve riding instructors and we have only twelve schooled (capable of being reassembled) horses to give our *reprise*. This is insufficient because we have none to replace those horses that are indisposed.

"Then our horses are used for everything. After being worked in the riding school from October to May, they are trained for six weeks. They are raced in July (Military Course);

in August they go on a raid of 160 miles in two days, bearing 176 pounds; and in September they are hunted.

"This is proof of the usefulness of such a system of training, as these horses bear themselves well in all these tests."

When the horse is trained to go in his so-called *natural balance*, his impulsive powers are only stimulated to increase his gait. The hand of the rider is really no hand, as it feels nothing although it may have contact with the mouth of the horse. The neck of the horse is extended and supported principally by the *ligamentum* muscles. The shoulder is moved by the muscles attached to the funicular portion of the *ligamentum* muscle, instead of by the more powerful *serratus magnus* muscle, which is attached to the last four cervical vertabræ. As the neck of the horse is extended, undue weight is put on the forehead, which with the improper coördination of the muscles of the shoulder, tend to strain of the ligaments of the front legs, thus prematurely breaking the horse down. The animal's reserve is lessened, as the long back muscle and the powerful shoulder muscle waste away from non-use. The animal loses in hardiness and control, because there is nothing in the hand to control. The horse is trained by *routining* him and not by control of the muscular impulses. In conformation, he loses the fullness of back and neck muscles. This method has the advantage, however, of entailing practically no work on the part of the trainer, who simply acts as a *passenger*, day after day, until the animal is routined to his work.

When the trainer, however, insists on balance from the beginning, he demands vigorous impulses, bringing into play the powerful back muscle, thus furnishing the fixity in the last four cervical vertabræ necessary for the proper action of the *serratus magnus* muscle, the principal shoulder muscle. To handle this vigorous impulse, flexions at the jaw and poll are necessary; otherwise the horse will go beyond the hand. These flexions require skill and care to do correctly, and false flexions which bend the entire neck, may make the horse a "jigger" and a "rubberneck." The rider is busy all the time feeling the horse, so as to keep the impulses normal, and maintain correct position of the head and neck. "Position and impulses are everything." He is no longer a simple passenger, but is

busy all the time with his legs and hand, and the results are shown in the smooth flowing gaits, the handsome appearance, easy control, and all around even muscular development. It is exact, carefully accurate work, and requires skill and experience, but the results are fully worth it.

We have a riding school at Fort Riley, and have selected a system of training which trusts to luck to secure and maintain balance. Imagine, under the system adopted at the Mounted Service School, subjecting your first or even your second year training colt to the test described in this paper, and securing satisfactory results!



## A REMOUNT DEPARTMENT VERSUS THE CONTRACT SYSTEM.

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BY R. VANS AGNEW, VETERINARIAN, FIFTH CAVALRY.

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THE following extract from an article that appeared in the February 24, 1917, number of the *The Thoroughbred* seems to be worthy of consideration by our mounted organizations:

"Nothing could give a more lucid or expressive condition of affairs in this country in connection with the horse breeding industry than the following letter from John F. Ryan, the head of the Canadian Breeding Bureau, the leading spirit in the Overseas Export Company of Canada, and principal in the International Exportation Company of New York. The experiences of Mr. Ryan have placed him in touch with every detail in the horse breeding world.

"The figures quoted are gathered from official sources to which Mr. Ryan has every access. His description of the horse needed for military work has been gleaned from practical connection with the inspectors of almost every belligerent country as well as American experts.

"His letter shows the actual need of horse breeding encouragement and determines that preparedness in time of peace. Under the existing fretful condition in this country and the probabilities of war it is almost to learn that if the United States needed military horses few are to be obtained. The excessive call upon this country has depleted the stock to such an extent that it has deprived us of nearly all the good material in that line. We have sold our last loaf, as it were, and nowhere to turn to buy another. The horse situation has become a matter of most serious importance and demands the immediate consideration of the Federal and State governments.

"Mr. Ryan gives the following interesting and impressive facts: 'Regarding the total number of horses shipped from

the United States during the war, my estimate is that France and England alone have taken 1,815,000 horses from October 8, 1914, to February 1, 1917. In addition to this the Italian Government has taken about 160,000 head and the Greeks about 30,000.

" 'The proportions of cavalry and artillery horses have changed from time to time during the war, these varying with the developments on the west front and in the Balkans.

" 'The first contract issued by the French Government called for fifty per cent. cavalry, forty per cent. light artillery and ten per cent. heavy artillery. This was in September, 1914, and the contract was executed in October, November and December. The next contracts were for thirty per cent. cavalry, fifty per cent. field artillery and twenty per cent. heavy artillery. The third set of contracts were for twenty per cent. cavalry, sixty per cent. field artillery and twenty per cent. heavy artillery. The 1917 contract which I signed a few days ago, is for ten per cent. cavalry, fifty per cent. field artillery and thirty per cent heavy artillery. These changes were due to the mode of warfare. The trench method reduces the need of cavalry, whereas the enormous amount of shell fire in this war has increased the need for field gun horses.

" 'It is important to note, however, that as the war progressed the French buying commissions got to the point where they took a field gun horse that could easily be used for cavalry purposes and the cavalry horse strong enough to help pull a field gun.

" 'By April, 1915, or after seven months of buying, there were no real cavalry horses available in America. I was the first to get into Kentucky and secured 6,250. At the present time I could not hope to get more than a car load a week of the *real stuff* in that State. The same holds true in California, Virginia, Tennessee—in fact all over the country.

" 'The heavy horse is very plentiful because he is produced in the ordinary work of the horse industry.

" 'For the field artillery the French and British are now accepting a small farm chunk, weighing from 1,050 to 1,200 pounds, and are continually bemoaning the fact that America has no thoroughbred blood in this class of horse. As near as



I can figure, after having watched many thousand horses branded, I believe that thoroughbred blood is necessary in both cavalry and field artillery horses. I know that whenever an inspector, French or English, sees a gunner which looks though he might have a dash of thoroughbred blood he selects him at once and asks for more of the same kind.' "

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Unfortunately for us there is very little doubt that Mr. Ryan is only too right in stating the deplorable fact that there is a great dearth of the "*real stuff*" in the form of a well bred cavalry or light artillery horse of the proper type.

This fact also has been observed by many men who tried to buy army horses last summer, and by the army man in general who received those animals that were bought. All good judges speak with regret on the absence of quality and substance in the remounts. To change this state of affairs necessitates a complete reversal of our present system.

Horsemastership in all its branches takes years of experience and thinking to attain to any degree of exactitude and if it is to be entered upon on a large scale it requires a complete and concentrated system to be applied to its fulfilment

Our remount system cannot be worked by a happy-go-lucky individualism it requires the best efforts of the best men of the mounted organizations of the service. And these men must assemble where they can be taught to think and work in complete unison with the purpose in view namely the best way of obtaining satisfactory animals for war purposes. There must be a selected body of men who are proved experts in their special knowledge.

A man may be a wonderful rider or a fine instructor or a great cavalry leader or a grand talker and yet can be a poor judge of a horse. Some men never learn, others can be taught how to choose the proper type. Therefore since the personnel of our mounted organizations have to live with and use horses it is "up to them" to devise some settled, organized and sufficient scheme in regard to obtaining proper remounts.

The mounted branches of the service need a specially organized department in the Quartermasters Department, com-

posed of the best and most experienced horsemasters in the service or retired.

This remount department should be commanded by a Colonel-Inspector. The personnel should collect in some central place; arrange on a settled policy; perfect themselves into a singleness of opinion on their subject and then carry it out in the best way.

Major C. E. Hawkins in his careful article on remounts in the January, 1917, *CAVALRY JOURNAL*, speaks favorably of the contract system, and states that the large contractor generally collects a better grade of animal.

This no doubt is true, but it does not prove that the United States Government cannot get the same grade in other ways. The Quartermaster's Department is a fairly large contractor itself and experience proves that sellers will always come to buyers no matter where they may be.

The dollar is a mighty magnet.

Also, it is doubtful if one central inspecting board that has to travel to and fro many times is any more economical than a board that has, say three, collecting stations to which the animals can be brought. But the Remount Department will have to do more than let out contracts and inspect the result if Mr. Ryan and other authorities are right in their warnings as to the scarcity of army horses.

It will have to teach the farmer and breeder how to breed the proper type of animal. This can only be done by giving sufficiently large premiums for the best sires, dams and progeny; by personal instruction, advice and by paying a fair price in an open market. The middle man must be the Remount Department.

All the large contractors would be only too glad to sell their animals for a fair price in the open market. A low contract price and many "rejects" is the expensive part of their business. A good price and no, or very few, "rejects" is good business for all parties. In order to get good horses this government will sooner or later have to pay the public these breeding premiums.

The War Department ought to insist on this method as a part of the necessary preparation for war.

The mounted organizations ought to invite the attention of the War Department to this fact.

In a few states the farmers and some breeders are catering to a few wealthy peoples' tastes and desires for hunters. But the bulk of the farmers of the nation know nothing about hunters and army horses and care less. They simply breed their light mares to the nearest and cheapest stallion, and when a contractor's agent comes around they sell to him at a miserably low figure, consequently they become discontented and in many cases stop breeding.

The Remount Department should get laws passed giving good substantial premiums for sires, dams and progeny. Its personnel should be distributed over the states on a properly organized plan, should travel over their territory, should come in contact with the horse breeding public, should judge on the premium winners, should put up collecting stations and have the animals brought there at the most suitable seasons of the year.

The contract system has been in effect for a number of years and evidently it was thought to be wanting in some essentials for remount stations were started into existence.

It is too soon to say if these are successful or not, but indications point to the negative. But consensus of opinion that is worth considering, is most emphatic in saying that the horse question of last year was not a success in any part, in buying, care, or efficiency. So let us drop the old methods and try something new that can be brought to a higher state of knowledge and efficiency.

This is a serious question and the very existence of the mounted arm is threatened unless it keeps up with the improvements that are being brought out every day. It is not logical to publish a philosophical theory of the kind of horse wanted and then accept a much inferior animal.

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## THE INFLUENCE OF HORSE SHOWS.

(*The New York Times.*)

ONE of the most enthusiastic horsemen around Madison Square Garden during the show was Alfred B. Maclay, chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Horse Show Association. He is a member of the famous Millbrook Hunt, one of the organizers of Squadron A and a Spanish War veteran, and is also fond of the standard bred horse, the noted roadster Auditor B., winning championships for him in the days when the trotter was one of the big attractions at the Garden.

The fact that Mr. Maclay has served as a judge of hunters, saddle, and light harness horses at nearly every show of prominence in the East, and that he has visited and made observations on horse breeding in practically every country in Continental Europe should render him specially competent to pass on horse conditions in the United States. Upon being asked what medium he considered the most important for the distribution of knowledge pertaining to the horse, Mr. Maclay said recently:

"The horse show is unquestionably the greatest of all educators, for it is there that type is illustrated in living form. Those who are intelligent and progressive have an opportunity to see what others are producing, and they can learn to avoid not only their own errors, but those of their fellows as well. The horse show, which is now a feature of social life everywhere in the United States and Canada, has done more to develop

certain types of horses than any other influence that can be named. This is particularly true of the saddle horse, hunter, and harness horse of every type.

"Racing I would place next as a contributing factor. Without the tests on both the running and trotting courses our breeding ventures, which nature renders uncertain despite all science, would be still less satisfactory. It's the only way to show up structural and other weaknesses, and we cannot hope to make progress without these competitions. There is no more stirring spectacle, aside from the economic principle involved, than a rousing contest between well-matched horses which are trained to the minute. We had such a race in our point-to-point steeplechase at Millbrook last Saturday. Such men as Ambrose Clark, Bryce Wing, Harry Smith, and Skiddy von Stade took part. The course was over a natural country that is as beautiful as anything in Leicestershire, and there was a thrill for the thousands who watched it every foot of the four and a half miles."

Mr. Maclay was very enthusiastic about the system for the production of all army horse types in France, Germany, Russia, and Austria-Hungary.

"All these countries have surpassed England in the production of the army horse," said Mr. Maclay, "and this despite the fact that England had the material at her very doors, but failed to avail herself of it. Every year the agents of these foreign Governments came to the Dublin Horse Show and carried away the best of the animals. The Irish horses have the bone and other qualities which have assimilated so perfectly with those of our lands. England would not pay the prices such horses commanded, while the agents of the Continental powers had practically *carte blanche* when they found something desirable."

"Doesn't the experience of England convey a parallel to conditions here?" Mr. Maclay was asked.

"We have certainly permitted a lot of very useful horses to leave the United States," was the reply, "and there is no argument as to the quality of the horses now at the border. They are very poor indeed. What can you expect when the experimental appropriation is so sparing and will only pay a

maximum of \$175 for a three-year-old? That figure should be increased to \$250 at once, and as many desirable three-year-olds as can be obtained should be bought and sent to the various training stations for development.

"My type of a cavalry remount is a big-bodied, short-legged horse, with a good shoulder and a nice rein. He should not be under 15.2 nor more than 15.3—15.2½ would be the ideal size, and I believe he would stand the test better if he is a combination of thoroughbred and trotting strains. The sort of horse which is being bred in the Genesee Valley, where the Jockey Club's Breeding Bureau has its best sires, should answer every question."

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## TWO BUGLE CALLS.

By O. W. NORTON.

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THE bugle was much used in the army. The carrying quality of its tones made it possible to convey commands to a great distance in times of quiet, and even in the roar of battle its shrill notes could be distinctly heard. The reveille which waked the soldier from his slumber in camp or bivouac and the order to put out the lights at night were sounded on the bugle. There were calls to breakfast, dinner and supper. Men in camp unfit for duty were summoned to the surgeon's tent by the sick call. The skirmish line in battle was ordered to deploy, to advance, to commence firing, to lie down, to cease firing, to retreat, to rally on the reserve, and to execute many other movements by various calls on the bugle. There were calls for sergeants to report to the adjutant, for officers to report to the colonel, for companies to form for roll call, for regiments to form line of battle on the colors, to advance in line of battle and to retreat, to change direction in marching, to strike tents and prepare to march, and many others. No cavalryman will ever forget the stirring call of "Boots and Saddles."

When General McClellan was organizing the Army of the Potomac near Washington in the autumn of 1861, the

camps along the line were very near together, and the constant drilling, to the sound of the bugle, of the various regiments and brigades often caused confusion in understanding orders. General Daniel Butterfield, who organized a brigade at this time, known at first as "Butterfield's Brigade," saw at an early date the necessity of doing something to prevent this confusion. Butterfield had a genius for military matters, which later secured for him high rank in the Army of the Potomac and in the western armies. He could himself sound the bugle calls when occasion required. Shortly after he assumed command of the brigade, he composed, and taught the writer, then serving as his brigade bugler, a bugle call for his brigade. This consisted of three long notes on one key, and a catch repeated. It was sounded twice before each call for any operation or movement and indicated to the officers and men that the call to follow was for the troops of this brigade. General Butterfield also prepared different calls for the regimental bugler of each regiment in his brigade. The men were accustomed to sing various words to the accompaniment of the bugle calls when they heard them. Most of these words were explanatory of the meaning of the call, or were jocose comments on the command. When the reveille was sounded men could be heard through the camps singing:

"I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em  
up in the morning,

I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em  
up at all.

The corporal's worse than the private, the sergeant's worse  
than the corporal,

The lieutenant's worse than the sergeant, and the captain's  
worst of all.

I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em up  
in the morning,

I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em up, I can't wake 'em  
up at all.\*

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\*It is sometimes heard as follows:

I can't get 'em up, I can't get 'em up,  
I can't get 'em up in the morning,  
I can't get 'em up, I can't get 'em up,  
I can't get 'em up at all.



These words exactly fitted the notes of the bugle. When the sick call sounded, the men sang, "All ye sick men, all ye sick men, get your calomel, get your calomel, get your calomel, get your calomel." Sometimes they sang, "Doctor Jones says, Doctor Jones says, come and get your quinine, quinine, quinine, come and get your wuinine, qui-i-ni-i-ine."

When, on the march, the general halted his brigade intending to give the men an opportunity for a few moments' rest, the brigade call was sounded, then the call to halt, then a most welcome call of three short notes repeated, to which the great chorus responded along the line, "All lie down, all lie down." When the march was to be resumed the brigade call was again sounded, followed by the less welcome call, "attention!" To this the men responded in words well suited to the music:

"Fall in, ye poor devils, as fast as ye can,  
And when ye get tired I'll rest you again."

Words were set to many other calls, but one which lasted from Arlington Heights to Appomattox, was the interpretation of the brigade call. To this the men sang:

"Dan, Dan, Dan Butterfield, Butterfield,  
Dan, Dan, Dan Butterfield, Butterfield."

The general used to say, that sometimes in trying circumstances, when the brigade was called up from a too short rest, he thought he could distinguish the words, "Damn, Damn, Damn, Butterfield." This is not very probable. The men of that old brigade so much admired their gallant leader that nothing he could do would cause them to use such disrespectful language.

The general calls were used throughout the Union army. The music of the calls was printed in the Tactics where they

Get up you sleepy monkeys,  
And wake your lazy bunkies,  
Put on your working breeches,  
And go and do your work.

I can't get 'em up, I can't get 'em up,  
I can't get 'em up in the morning,  
I can't get 'em up, I can't get 'em up,  
I can't get 'em up at all.

[EDITOR.]

could be studied and learned by officers whose duty it was to understand them and repeat in words to the men under their command the orders indicated by the bugle. This brigade call was used only by Butterfield's brigade and was not printed in the Tactics.

## BUTTERFIELD'S BRIGADE CALL.



Dan, Dan, Dan, Butterfield, Butterfield.

This special call for an organization was useful in many ways. It had no small effect in arousing and maintaining an *esprit de corps* in this brigade, second to none in the army. It was known by all troops of the Army of the Potomac, and the brigade was marched to its music, was always respected and welcomed by its comrades in arms as an organization to be trusted, and sure to give a good account of itself under all circumstances.

The rout of the Union army at the second battle of Bull Run was for a time much greater than that which occurred at the first battle, although the men having become veterans, order was more quickly restored. After making a gallant charge which was received by masked batteries and musketry in front, the line also being enfiladed by a large part of Longstreet's artillery, the men fell back in confusion. At the turnpike all trace of organization was lost. Darkness came on and the blockade at the Stone Bridge broke up whatever semblance of order remained. Between the Stone Bridge and Centreville the turnpike was filled with a disorganized mass of infantry, artillery, ambulance and wagon trains. General Butterfield, riding in the midst of the *melée*, ordered his bugler to sound at short intervals his brigade call. It was received with shouts from all directions, and the men of this brigade, rallying to that call in the darkness, were formed into column, and marched into Centreville in better order than that prevailing in almost any other command.

In September, 1889, one of the regiments of this brigade met on Little Round Top, Gettysburg, to dedicate its regi-

mental monument and to hold the annual reunion of the survivors of the regiment. Few of them had seen the battlefield since July, 1863. The writer, attending this reunion, took with him a bugle, and standing among the rocks and trees sounded once more the old Dan Butterfield Call. The men were scattered about over the hill and in the lower ground at its foot, some seeking the rocks where they fought, others going further to see how the position looked from the place where the enemy advanced. When the bugle sounded, a great shout came up from the men, who recognized the old familiar call, although many of them had not heard it for a quarter of a century. They came charging up to the spot where the bugler stood, some with tears in their eyes, asking to have it repeated. That familiar sound echoing among the rocks where they had fought, brought back, perhaps more vividly than word could do, the memories of the days when they had answered so often to its sound. Few men of the old Third Brigade can hear that call today without emotion.

One day in July, 1862, when the Army of the Potomac was in camp at Harrison's Landing on the James River, Virginia, resting and recruiting from its losses in the seven days of battle before Richmond, General Butterfield summoned the writer, his brigade bugler, to his tent, and whistling some new tune asked the bugler to sound it for him. This was done, not quite to his satisfaction at first, but after repeated trials, changing the time of some of the notes which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit the general. He then ordered that it should be substituted in his brigade for the regulation "Taps" (extinguish lights) which was printed in the Tactics and used by the whole army. This was done for the first time that night. The next day buglers from near-by brigades came over to the camp of Butterfield's brigade to ask the meaning of this new call. They liked it, and copying the music returned to their camps, but it was not until some time later, when generals of other commands, had heard its melodious notes, that orders were issued, or permission given, to substitute it throughout the Army of the Potomac for the time-honored call which came down from West Point.

In the Western Armies the regulation call was in use until the autumn of 1863. At that time the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps were detached from the Army of the Potomac and sent under command of General Hooker to reinforce the Union army at Chattanooga. Through its use in these corps it became known in the Western Armies and was adopted by them. From that time it became and remains to this day the official call for "Taps." It is printed in the present Tactics and is used throughout the United States Army and Navy, the National Guard and all organizations of veteran soldiers.

General Butterfield in speaking of the reason for changing the call for "Taps," said that the regulation call was not very musical and not appropriate to the order which it conveyed. He wanted a call which in its music should have some suggestion of putting out the lights and lying down to rest in the silence of the camp, and musing over airs and musical phrases which might better represent this idea, he composed this call and directed its use in the camps of his brigade, the only troops over which he had at that time any authority. It made its way by its intrinsic beauty to a permanent place in the minds and hearts of the soldiers.

In accordance with the custom of attaching words to such calls as had a significance to which words were adapted, the men soon began to sing to this call, "Go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep. You may now go to sleep, go to sleep." This was the last regular call of the day or night in camp. About half an hour after the formation of a company for evening roll-call, to which it was summoned by the "Tattoo," this call was sounded as a signal to put out all lights in tents, stop all loud conversation, and everything which would interfere with the quiet rest and sleep of the men. Sometimes they sang, "Put out the lights, go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep, go to sleep. Put out the lights, go to sleep, go to sleep."

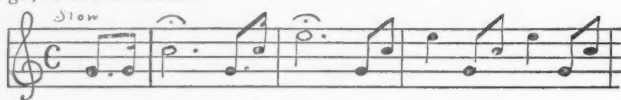
General Butterfield in composing this call and directing that it be used for "Taps" in his brigade, could not have foreseen its popularity and the use for another purpose into which it would grow. Today whenever a man is buried with military honors anywhere in the United States, the ceremony is concluded by firing three volleys of musketry over the grave

and sounding with the trumpet or bugle, "Put out the lights. Go to sleep." At the Soldier's Homes, when the worn-out veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic lie down to their last rest, while their comrades stand about the grave with bared heads, some comrade bids farewell by sounding on the bugle this call to "Go to sleep."

At all posts of our little Regular Army, whether in garrison or at the distant frontier camps, a soldier who is buried by his comrades receives this last salute. When General Butterfield was buried at West Point a few months ago, the solemn strains of this call bade the last farewell to its author. It consigned to their last rest Sheridan at Arlington, Sherman at St. Louis, Grant at New York, and McKinley at Canton.

In addition to the use of this call by the army it is now used for the same purpose by the navy. In every port around the world visited by our vessels of war its sweet tones float over the water the last call of the night, and it is the farewell to every Blue Jacket buried at sea.

There is something singularly beautiful and appropriate in the music of this wonderful call. Its strains are melancholy, yet full of rest and peace. Its echoes linger in the heart long after its tones have ceased to vibrate in the air. Like Handel's *Largo*, it is immortal.\*



Put out the lights, Go to sleep, Go to sleep, Go to sleep. Go to



sleep. Put out the lights. Go to sleep, Go to sleep.

\*It was given in the old "Tactics" prior to 1867 as follows:

76=1 *Allegro*,



Editor.

## MILITARY NOTES

### WHAT HORSE FOR THE CAVALRY?

KINGFISHER.

THIS little horse (he is 14 hands 3 inches) crossed the international boundary line into Mexico March 15, 1916, in pursuit of Villa and his outlaw band.

From March 15th to March 26th he was ridden 219 miles, and from March 31st to April 12th, 362 miles, across the deserts, over the mountains, and through the waterless wastes of northern Chihuahua, carrying his rider, food for man and horse, in addition to the usual pack an officer must take when operating in a hostile country far from the base or line of communications; a load well over 200 pounds.

After marching 219 miles in eleven days on less than half forage, on March 31st he lead a small band of horsemen in a dash after Villa which ended in the fight at Parral on April 12th, covering a distance of 362 miles in thirteen days. In this drive he had but little grain, and that corn which he had never before eaten, no hay, and what dead grass he could get during the night while tethered to a short chain. He negotiated the snows of the mountain passes, he sweated through the noon day heat of the lower levels, and he shivered at night from the icy winds of these high altitudes.

He never showed any signs of fatigue, never lost courage, and was a constant inspiration to his rider. He lost but little flesh always moved with a quick springy step with head and tail alertly raised, animated and watchful. In battle he was fearless, being quite content to keep on the firing line without fuss or objection.

From April 22d to June 9th he was ridden 300 miles, but under better conditions than he experienced previous to April 12th.

He went lame but once due to a thorn in the frog. But he did his work just the same. He was never sick, was always ready, and twenty-five thousand dollars cannot buy him.



KINGFISHER.

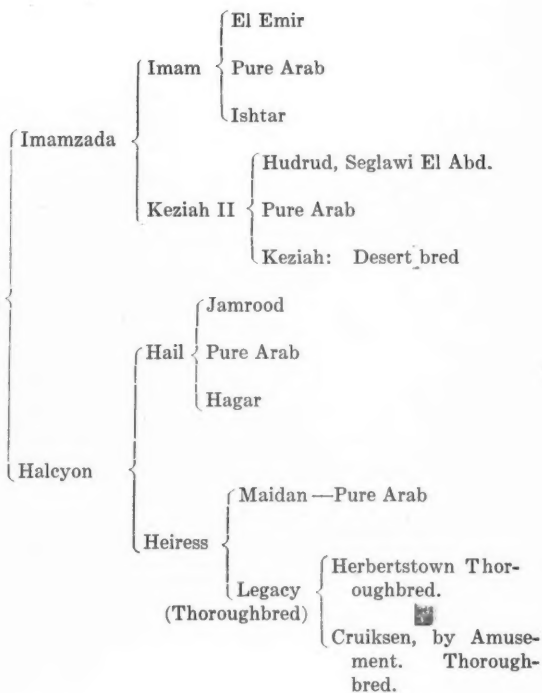


## KINGFISHER

 $\frac{7}{8}$  Arab $\frac{1}{8}$  Thoroughbred

Foaled in July

1911



## NEW CAVALRY EQUIPMENT.

WE reproduce herewith three cuts showing the enlisted men's saddle and saddle equipment developed by the Cavalry Equipment Board, and recently tried out in a semi-final test at Fort Riley, Kansas.



ENLISTED MENS' SADDLE, No. 4.

Cavalry Equipment Board, Rock Island Arsenal. Stripped. Off Side.

The saddletree is of laminated wood and basswood reinforced at pommel and cantle with steel arches, and covered, as was the McClellan, with rawhide and leather. Arsenal tests show it to be stronger than the McClellan saddle.



ENLISTED MENS' SADDLE, No. 4.

Packed. Near side. Cavalry Equipment Board, Rock Island Arsenal.

The packing of the saddle follows in general that prescribed for the 1912 equipment, but contemplates carrying the rifle on the trooper's back—the small of the stock being held in a steel clip on the cartridge belt in rear of the right.

hip, and the sling-swivels on the rifle being changed to bring the *flat* of the stock against the trooper's back.

The recent test consisted of a 220 mile march in five days, the horse carrying an aggregate load of 162.5 pounds, includ-



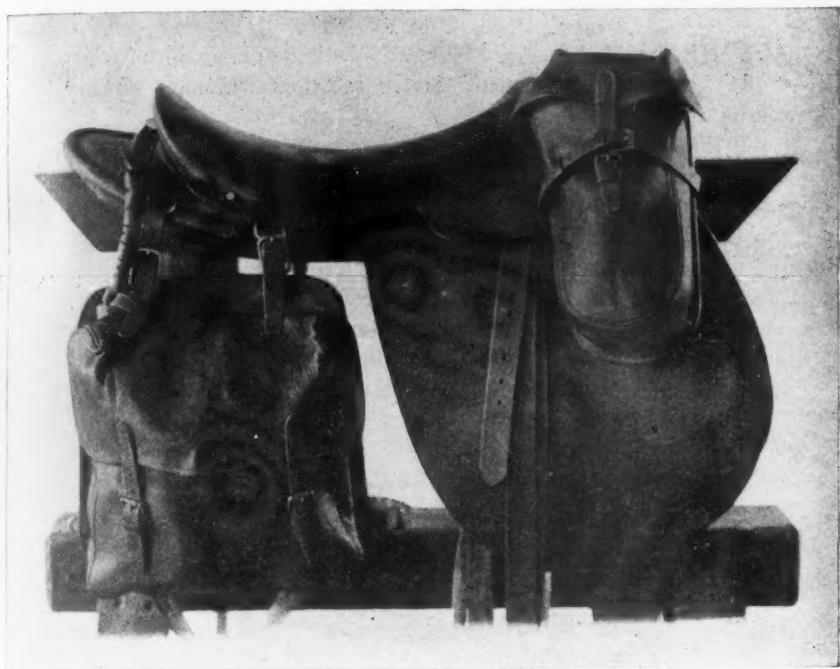
ENLISTED MENS' SADDLE, No. 4.

Packed. Off side. Cavalry Equipment Board. Rock Island Arsenal.

ing trooper, equipment, three days rations, and eight pounds of grain. The first three days marches were 33.3 miles per day; with 58 miles the fourth day; and 62 miles the fifth day. The result of the test seemed to warrant the manufacture of a

hundred sets of this equipment for trial under service conditions. There is also shown a cut of the officers' saddle.

C. D. R.



OFFICERS' FIELD SADDLE.

Ordnance model-1916. Fabricated at Rock Island Arsenal under the supervision of the Cavalry Board. Photographed after having been ridden over 800 miles in Mexico and on the border by First Lieutenant John T. Kennedy, Sixth Cavalry.

## THE SERVICE BLOUSE.

THE so-called service blouse as now issued is again on trial as a *service* garment due to the discontinuance of the issue of sweaters.

Looking back a little it is found that the sweater was issued to be worn in lieu of the blouse in the field as it gave greater freedom of movement. It has proven unsatisfactory in that it is an extra article.

It does not wear. It does not give the expected protection from cold or wind. Then the question arises; if we are back to the *service* blouse why was it ever abandoned as an article of clothing for use in the field? The answer is because it was found confining, tight in the chest and the standing collar extremely uncomfortable. Then why was no effort made to overcome these objections?

Now in favor of the blouse we have the following points:

1. It is as warm as the sweater.
2. It protects from the wind.
3. It has four spacious pockets in which to carry note books, pencils, maps, etc.

As regards the objections could not the patterns be cut to make a blouse of a given size a little fuller in the chest and freer in the armholes? Certainly. Could not the blouse be made with a turn down collar similar to the collar on the British blouse? Such a collar would be neater than our present standing collar which on issue blouses rarely fits the wearer, and would be vastly more comfortable. Why is it that at drill in garrison the blouse is practically never worn? Because it is too uncomfortable. On guard where the blouse is compulsory how many men have been noticed with their collars unhooked while walking post?

How many officers have been able to lie down in a blouse with the collar open even, without the sensation of wearing a wide dog collar.

It is a fine thing to cling to old traditions and customs of the service and high collars for dress, but in these days of preparedness and border service could not the high collar, that relic of barbarism, which in feudal time was of chain, be sacrificed for the good of the service.

In plain English let the service blouse be a service blouse in fact as well as in name.

WILFRED M. BLUNT,  
*First Lieutenant, Eleventh Cavalry.*

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### TO FIGHT—IS THAT ALL?

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BY CAPTAIN H. J. MCKENNEY, TWELFTH CAVALRY.

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DOUBLE rank or single rank, with pistol, saber or gun. What difference is it how we fight, just so the fighting is done right and troops don't break and run.

But, if surprised, troops have been known to break and run and how can fighting be *done right*, without proper information of the enemy, terrain, and what-not?

Napoleon said that: "The art of war has its unchanging principles." Those principles have not changed since 1831, when General de Brack wrote: "Every military operation rests, first, upon a thorough knowledge of the terrain in its offensive and defensive aspects; and, second, upon that of the position, strength, and, so far as possible, the intentions of the enemy. It is to obtain this knowledge with some degree of certainty that officers are sent on reconnaissance."

General de Brack not only calls attention to the importance of reconnaissance but accentuates the importance and delicateness of the duty when he says that "officers are sent on reconnaissance." Today, the type of enlisted men we are getting in the cavalry can be trained in scouting and reconnaissance. Yes, even the men from the cities. Why not? Boys of the Boy Scouts, in cities, are learning wood craft, trailing, etc.



As it is, in the average troop of cavalry, how many men are there who could be trusted, under all conditions which might arise, to carry out the mission of a scout, that is: "*To get the required information and report it to the proper authority in time for it to be of use.*"

It seems simple enough to tell a man to go look at a thing and come back and tell what he saw. But, in any troop, take several men at random and send them out to report on the military features of some common place object nearby. For example, select a nearby house, a bridge or a hill and see how useful their reports would be in a crisis. Try them on trailing over a trail which had been made for the purpose. See how many of them can tell what happened when the tracks were being made; what speed was being made by the person, animal or vehicle, which made the tracks or when the tracks were made. These are only a few of the things which might be mentioned. But, how many of them would stand these simple, rudimentary tests? Are such scouts as these to be the "eyes and ears of the army?" Can such men make reports upon which a commander may base a decision of any importance? No. We still will have to send out officers, as the French did in 1831. This is not the fault of the individual trooper. The fault lies in the lack of his training along these lines, not in his lack of ability to receive such training.

The end of a war will find us with cavalymen who have been trained in scouting. Trained in the school of experience. But, what is needed is men trained in scouting at the beginning of the war—before contact. Are we prepared for this? Is this training being given? Has it ever been given, adequately, except in war? Let us look at the last example of our pressing need for scouts. The American army never needed scouts more than when General Pershing's Punitive Expedition went through the International Barbed Wire Fence and started after Villa. So, we got them. We hired civilians to do our scouting and Apache Indians to help them do the trailing. Really, it seems that this should not be recorded in these pages. What a commentary it is on our methods of training. Doubtless, there were individual cases of troopers who did efficient work as scouts. If so, such men were born that way. Few of them, if

any, can attribute their ability as scouts to systematic training, received in the ranks.

As the new Cavalry Drill Regulations were required to be rushed to the Public Printer before such matters as trailing and scouting were touched upon, the matter of instructing men in these subjects is still in the hands of organization commanders.

Why the matter of training in these subjects has been left, so consistently, in such a nebulous state, or entirely ignored, is incomprehensible. The necessity for reconnaissance and scouting goes without saying. Stress is laid upon it in the Field Service Regulations. To quote from the 1914 Regulations: " \* \* \* reconnaissance must be depended upon to obtain the information upon which all tactical movements of troops should be based." Again: "Reconnaissance in the theater of operations is best made by cavalry, which from the beginning of the campaign seeks to determine the enemy's strength and dispositions." Then, why is it that the procuring of the very material with which a commander must work, in arriving at his decisions, is left to chance? I refer to the procuring of information—military information which will be of use. This is a subject in itself, a separate and distinct line of training; because, it is one of the rôles of cavalry, equal, in importance, to the rôle of fighting.

We train in the rôle of fighting. Why leave the rôle of scouting to chance?

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#### A SUITABLE MOUNT.

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IN the last number of the CAVALRY JOURNAL (Page 458), we published a cut of Colonel W. C. Brown's horse but without his pedigree.

It is given herewith below:

#### GILDEROY.

Registered Virginia Thoroughbred Gelding. Owned and trained by Captain C. S. Babcock, Tenth Cavalry, November, 1909, to October, 1915, and while ridden by him won prizes as follows:

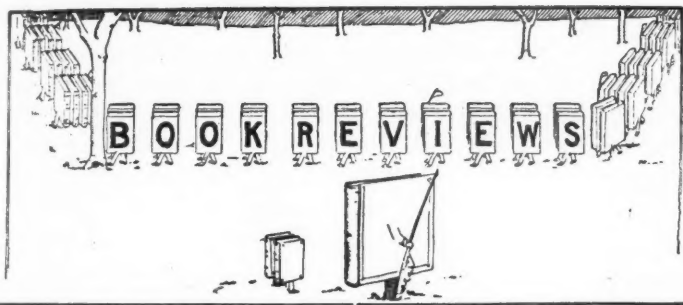
*First Prize.*—Officer's Charger Class, Winchester, Va., 1913.

*First Prize.*—Officer's Charger Class, Panama Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, October, 1915.

*Third Prize.*—Best trained charger. Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, October, 1915.

Owned by Colonel W. C. Brown, U. S. Cavalry.





**Machine  
Gun.\***

This is a book for the professional soldier. It is the last word on the machine gun and its tactical use.

The authors, who have had actual service with machine gun units, really divide their subject into four parts (though not so marked in the text), viz.:

1. History and evolution of machine guns and their tactics.
2. Machine gun tactics as practiced in European armies today.
3. Training of machine gun units.
4. Appendices. These include eighty-five illustrations of machine guns, arranged in chronological order, and a bibliography of authorities consulted (also arranged chronologically) with notes indicating the scope and value of each work listed.

The authors state that " \* \* \* in elaborating our theory of what the theory of machine guns should be, we have freely quoted from the writings of soldiers of many nations,

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\* "THE BOOK OF THE MACHINE GUN." By Major F. V. Longstaff, late 5th Battalion East Surrey Regiment, and A. Hilliard Atteridge, late Captain London Irish Rifles. Hugh Rees, Ltd. London. Price 8 shillings, 6 pence, net.

after having previously told how machine guns had actually been used in battle, and traced the evolution of the gun itself."

One is surprised to note that the first article listed as a work consulted is "1862—Vandenburgh, General. (U. S. A.)" quoting a lecture published in the Journal of the Royal United Service Institute.

The reviewer recommends this book as being sound tactically and up to the minute. Every officer who commands a machine gun unit and every senior officer who has such a unit under his command needs it and needs it at once.

ELTINGE.

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**Tactical  
Training.\***

This remarkable book of 360 pages, by Lieutenant Colonel V. A. Caldwell, U. S. Infantry, is a manual for teaching tactical training.

The author points with emphasis to the fact that we must begin at once to train a numerous citizen soldiery, and that such military plans as we have made, must be modified accordingly. This line of action calls for short enlistments and intensive training; the former, in order that the greatest possible number of instructed men may be present in the country, and the latter, in order that the reserve thus created, may be composed of efficient soldiers.

Lieutenant Colonel Caldwell points out that all effective tactical training must be founded upon a proper consideration of the five great tactical principles and that all others are merely subsidiary to these. These principles as laid down by him are:

1. A correct grasp of the situation as a *whole*.
2. Act according to the circumstances and the nature of the terrain, *i. e.*, act according to conditions as they are.
3. Team work, *i. e.*, concentration of working forces.

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\*"CATECHISM OF UNIFORM TACTICAL TRAINING." By Lieutenant Colonel V. A. Caldwell, U. S. Infantry. The George Banta Publishing Company, Army and College Printers, Menasha, Wisconsin, 1916.

4. Fire superiority, *i. e.*, concentration of energy.
5. Simple and direct plans and methods, *i. e.*, efficiency.

The author has firm confidence in the individual intelligence of the rank and file of our men, who are available for military service; and his system contemplates training all who may be under instruction, from the private to the general, in the practical application of these five principles.

Much space is given to the subject of "fire superiority," and how troops may be trained in the means of bringing it about on the field of battle.

The tremendous importance of standardizing all tactical training is set forth and a method is laid down for bringing about this desirable condition.

Many subjects are taken up in detail, such as deployments, the use of echelon formations and field firing. A number of problems are given in order to more fully explain the author's methods.

Lieutenant Colonel Caldwell also prescribes a system of examinations, for use in testing the efficiency, in tactical training of infantry commands, from the squad to the brigade.

One chapter of twenty-five pages is unique. It relates to tactical charges and specifications that may be preferred against military leaders, from the corporal to the general, for violations of the five great tactical principles.

Another chapter consists of a number of military maxims, presumably collected from the sayings of great military leaders. Among these, we recognize some from those great Americans—Stonewall Jackson and General Grant.

The following probable typographic errors are noted:

Page 45, "When the flag is waved, you are being waved upon." The last "waved" should doubtless be "fired."

Page 226, "Let L Company be cover" probably means "M" Company.

The book is about the size of the Infantry Drill Regulations and is bound in red cloth. It will prove a valuable adjunct in training to the infantry and the Cavalry officer.

N. F. M.

**Military  
Sketching.\***

Regarding this text, we quote from a representative officer of the Tactical Department of the Army Service Schools:

"It is by far the best publication that I have seen for beginners because it teaches the elementary principles simply and concisely, shows exactly how to apply each principle, and how to take each step in the preparation of a sketch. It contains everything necessary to know in the preparation of a sketch, and contains nothing that is not necessary. Its statements and illustrations are so easily understood that, without the aid of an instructor, the student of this text will be able to qualify in map reading and sketching. It will, consequently, be of the greatest value, not only to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Regular Army and the National Guard, but peculiarly to those who have comparatively little time to spend on the subject, as in the institutions for reserve officers and in the Summer training camps.

Its suggestions for use in the study of "Minor Tactics" and in connection with the "B-H Map" are valuable. If followed, tactical instruction and a knowledge of ground forms and their proper representation on paper will be acquired at the same time and in an interesting form."

This text must not be confused with "Military Sketching and Map Reading for Non-commissioned Officers," by the same author. The text referred to in this review was published last month, and is issued by the U. S. Infantry Association, Washington, D. C.

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**Century  
of War.†**

This is really an enlarged and somewhat amplified *index* of the armed conflicts that have taken place since the fall of Napoleon and before the present European War.

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\*"MILITARY SKETCHING AND MAP READING." By Captain Loren C. Grieves, U. S. Infantry, 1917. U. S. Infantry Association. Price, \$1.00.

†"A CENTURY OF WAR. (1815-1914). A Précis of the Worlds Campaigns." By Captain G. D. G. Stevenson, Royal West Kent Regiment.



The subjects are arranged in chronological order. Each war is outlined under the headings "Origin," "Narrative" and "Results." Only the main features are mentioned, though usually the commanders of each side are named and the approximate strength of each side given or each battle described.

This is not a history. One must know much about any war mentioned to be able to understand what the text relates. One could use it to refresh his memory or to obtain a sufficient outline of any event to enable him to know just what he desired to look for with reference to any of the events named.

Small affairs like our Indian Campaigns are not recorded unless they possessed unusual political or commercial importance, nevertheless ninety-three wars are treated of in the text.

A handy little volume as a reference index.

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**Defense and  
Foreign  
Relations.\***

A discussion of the problem that faces Canada and the other Dominions when they desire to translate into actual practical form their desire to participate in British foreign affairs without giving up any of their present autonomous character.

This particular monograph is a reply to "The Problem of the Commonwealth" by Lionel Curtis, and, particularly to Mr. Curtis' conclusion that if the people of the Dominions want to take part in the control of their Foreign Affairs they must either join in the task of governing the great Dependencies (such as India) or assume their independence and renounce forever their status as British citizens.

An interesting discussion of the close relation that must exist between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Departments relating to the Army, Navy, Finance and the Colonies.

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\*"DEFENSE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS." Bs Z. A. Lash, K. C., LL.D.  
The MacMillan Company, Toronto, Canada. Price fifty cents.

**Army Regulations.\*** This is a small, paper covered book of 135 pages— $4\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $5\frac{1}{2}$ "—that is intended mainly for those who are going up for an examination for a commission in the Officers' Reserve Corps. It includes all parts of the Regulations mentioned in G. O. 32, War Department. The text includes the Change No. 50.

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**Infantry Drill Regulations.†** This is a book of the exact size of the Infantry Drill Regulations and is a reproduction of that excellent drill book, with the following additions:

"The index, the illustrations, the author's notes, the paragraph headings and the paragraph numbers (in parenthesis) inserted in various places." It includes Change No. 16, August 25, 1916.

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#### BOOK NOTICES.

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"OPERATIONS ORDERS. FIELD ARTILLERY." A study in the Technique of Battle Orders. By Lieutenant Colonel H. G. Bishop, Eighth Field Artillery. This book is on the line of Captain von Kiesling of the German Army, with the exception that von Kiesling deals with German units on a difficult foreign map, and relates almost wholly to infantry. The Collegiate Press. Geo. Banta Publishing Company, Menasha, Wis.

\*"EXTRACTS FROM ARMY REGULATIONS." Prepared for Officers' Reserve Corps. Published by Burdick & King, New York.

†"INFANTRY DRILL REGULATIONS, UNITED STATES ARMY." (Including the Manual of the Bayonet). Simplified with Annotations, Illustrations and Index. By Major Jas. A. Moss, U. S. Army. Price 75 cents.

"SEA WARFARE." By Rudyard Kipling. "A collection of vivid verse and prose pictures of submarines and destroyers—and of those who man them—while playing their perilous games in frigid seas among hidden mines." Price, \$1.25, net. Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, New York.

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"FLYING FOR FRANCE. With the American Escadrille at Verdun." By James R. McConbell, Sergeant-Pilot in the French Flying Corps. Price 60 cents, net. Doubleday, Page & Co. Garden City, New York.


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"BREACHES OF ANGLO-AMERICAN TREATIES." A study in History and Diplomacy. By John Bigelow, Major, U. S. Army, Retired. Author of "American Policy," "World Peace," etc. Price, \$1.50, net. Sturgis & Walton, New York. 1917.

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"THE PLATTSBURG MANUAL." A text book for Federal Training Camps. With a Foreword by Major General Leonard Wood, U. S. A. By Lieutenant O. O. Ellis, U. S. Army, and Lieutenant E. B. Garey, U. S. Army. 303 pages. 155 illustrations. Price, \$2.00, net. The Century Co., New York.





## Editor's Table

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### FIELD OFFICERS' MOUNTS.

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When Congress in its wisdom granted to officers below the grade of field officer, an annual allowance for the up-keep of official mounts, most field officers felt that an invidious and unfair distinction was made in the premises, and that equal allowances to all mounted officers should have been the rule.

The correct reason advanced at the time for the drawing of this line of demarcation between field and troop officers, was that the former's pay was considered more than sufficient for all military and personal necessities, without the allowance. While the action of Congress was disappointing, field officers were more than glad that their subordinates had received an additional stipend for mounts. And it may truly be said that field officers of the mounted services—including their comrades of the infantry, accepted the situation philosophically and even cheerfully, and have as a rule taken more than ordinary pride in maintaining mounts far above the former mediocre standards of past years; and that there is even demonstrated a very growing inclination to own and maintain the best obtainable chargers, oftentimes purchased by virtue of some rigid economy in standards of living or of entertaining or what not.

But if true of field officers of the mobile army, is this equally true of field officers of the staff corps and bureaus, who if war comes, will take the field with units of the mobile army? If war is declared tomorrow, how many of these staff officers would be found properly mounted, even though detailed from the mounted branches? Or, what is more to the point,

perhaps, how many of them would find themselves physically fit for mounted duty in the field, the efficient performance of which might be fraught with grave consequences to the mobile units under their administration?

Ask the question of such field officers in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, San Antonio, St. Louis, and San Francisco, and most of them would readily reply that while riding was their greatest recreation formerly, they had now absolutely no time for it after office hours. Or that while they would be only too glad to get out daily, the city offered no facilities for it. Or that they preferred to keep up their physical fitness by other kinds of exercise—golf, tennis, bowling, bridge, walking to and from home, etc.

We wonder how many of these excuses are legitimate; how many of these reasons would be wiped off the slate if proper conditioning for mounted work in the field, were made a part of the efficiency-rating of all field officers of the staff, as well as of regimental officers who are always expected to be in condition.

At any rate, a valued correspondent and keen observer, who has recently completed his first detail at the Nation's capital, sends us the following interesting impressions:

"To maintain a private horse in Washington costs an officer ten dollars a month if stabled with the Depot Quartermaster's Stables, or five dollars per month, if cared for at the War College Stables at Fort Myer. It is not probable that there is an officer on duty in Washington owning his own mounts, who does not keep them at one or the other of these places.

"The total of officer's mounts kept in the two stables to-day (January 24, 1917), is sixty-nine. Of this number many officers own two mounts, and one is known to own five, so that the number of officers who own and maintain mounts is trifling compared with the number of field officers on duty in the city—cavalry, infantry, field artillery, and staff-officers, of all corps and departments (209).

"This cost of keeping private mounts, disregarding the capital tied up in the value of the horse, represents the tax paid by certain officers for the privilege of keeping themselves in physical condition for mounted duty in the field, and incident-

tally too, for the pleasure they get out of it. It is a tax escaped and shirked by every officer supposed to own a horse who does not own one. And the obligations to keep oneself in trim for mounted duty, in the field, rests no more strongly on the field officer of infantry, cavalry or field artillery, than on his brother of the staff departments. One needs the money represented by the tax, escaped and shirked, fully as much as the other.

"For example, and as a matter of interest, there are nine field officers on duty in the Adjutant's General Department in Washington. It is known that but one of them owns his own mounts. At the Army War College, only two cavalry field officers out of six, own their own mounts. And the same proportions run through the various staff corps and departments, the infantry, and the field artillery. Of a small army of surgeons, quartermasters, ordnance officers, engineers, etc., a trifling number own mounts or ride any.

"Why should such officers be exempt from the requirement that field officers own their own mounts? Riding is becoming a lost art among field officers on staff duty, and we need someone to stir things up with a test ride.

"Riding is an easily lost habit. Men of middle age, employed in sedentary pursuits, quickly find excuses for not riding—and in fact for not taking any exercise whatever, except the walk between home and office. The passing raincloud, a threatened cold wave, a bit of mud, a tea, a little delay at the office followed by another delay at the club, and the eternally springing hope that tomorrow will bring no obstacles to a ride—all these combine to make the riding days few and far between.

"Is riding to disappear among field officers of the mobile forces—line and staff, until the official mount for a leader of soldiers shall become a jitney? Why not enforce the orders requiring officers to own their own horses?"

While no doubt the attitude of the War Department is and has been not to enforce the requirements of existing orders in regard to mounts too rigorously in the case of field officers whose *peace* duties do not ordinarily require them to be mounted, the letter just quoted offers to much food for thought.

Would a crackerjack army organization, an army continually on its toes to jump in and fight at the sound of the gong,

waive such a requirement in peace or in war? Would not its rigid enforcement, like the proposed institution of universal training, ultimately bring about such improved physical and even mental efficiency, that we would never be willing to go back to the old order of things?

Who would not rejoice to see the general officers and others at the head of staff corps and departments, knock off office work early once or twice a week, and lead their officers in what might ultimately be made an interesting and instructive tactical—or staff-ride. A couple of hours in the saddle over the Virginia or Maryland hills, would certainly be forehanded preparation for the physical requirements of war, and would do much towards wiping away the cobwebs of administrative duties.

While not posing as having the divine gift of prophecy, we venture to predict that the day may come when the corridors of the War Department will be thronged with general and their staffs in boots and riding breeches; and when so-called annual test rides will be unnecessary, for the simple reason that they will come once or twice each week, with unfailing regularity.

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#### MOVEMENT OF THE JOURNAL TO WASHINGTON.

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It was the expectation to have the *CAVALRY JOURNAL* moved to Washington before this issue of the *JOURNAL*. Some time in February the Vice-President Colonel N. F. McCLURE wrote to the effect that he had been unable to procure an Editor for the *CAVALRY JOURNAL* and a Secretary and Treasurer for the Cavalry Association, and asked if it were not possible to get out the April number of the *CAVALRY JOURNAL* at Fort Leavenworth. This has been done with the assistance of Lieutenant Colonel C. D. Rhodes who has kindly taken an active interest in the *JOURNAL*.

From a recent letter received from the Vice-President, we learn that he has not yet been able to fill the office of Editor. Of course in these war times, no active officer would consider



being tied down to an Editorship and a retired officer who is able to do duty is likewise unwilling to take this job as long as there is a chance of his being detailed on active duty.

At any rate none has been elected as yet and there seems to be a chance that there will be no one appointed.

What will become of the JOURNAL no one knows and it is probable that its publication will cease during the war. It is certain however, that the health of the present Editor will not permit of his continuing the arduous duties of the office.

Major General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff, declined the position of President to which he was elected at the last annual meeting and for the reason that he was Chief of Staff. Inasmuch as the Executive Council have failed to elect a successor, General Parker, under the Constitution, remains President of the Association.



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EDITOR.

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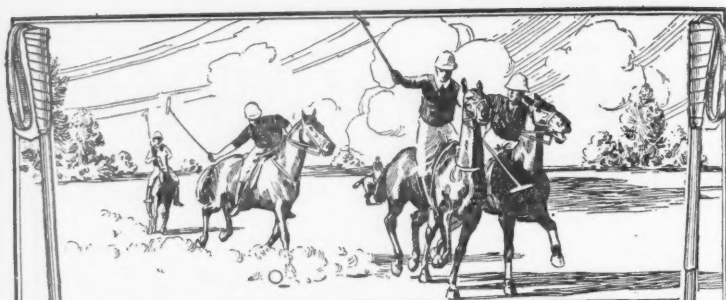
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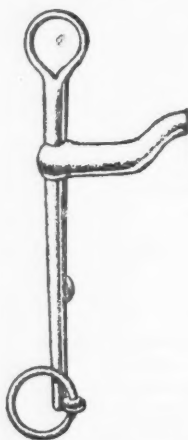




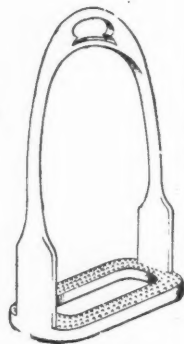
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